

A photograph of a woman hugging a child in a makeshift settlement by the water. The woman is in the foreground, seen from behind, wearing a dark blue t-shirt. She is hugging a young child who is wearing a blue and orange t-shirt. In the background, there is a body of water, a boat, and several other people in a makeshift settlement made of wooden planks and tarps. The scene is outdoors and appears to be a temporary living space.

ASIA JUSTICE AND RIGHTS ANNUAL REPORT

2021
2022

People trapped in cycles of war and political violence experience mass human rights violations that can break their countries, communities, and themselves.

Annual Report © Asia Justice and Rights 2021-2022

Except where otherwise noted, content in this document is licensed under a Creative Commons (attribution, non-commercial, no derivatives, international 4.0) license.

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/legalcode>

For more information please visit our website: www.asia-ajar.org

Where material is attributed to a copyright owner other than Asia Justice and Rights this material is not subject to the Creative Commons license.

Cover image: *A woman carrying her child to cross the Moei/Thaunggin river, along with supplies to be brought over to informal settlements along the river. This picture was taken at the end of 2021-early 2022. © Zin Koko*

Image on the next page: *A man carrying a box of portions to share with his family, near the Thai-Myanmar border. © Aung Naing Soe; General view of a newly built IDP camp where many Myanmar people fled from the war in Lay Kay Kaw Township, Karen State. This picture was taken at the end of 2021. © Aung Naing Soe*





Letter from the President

Survivors of historic human rights abuses in Asia and the Pacific faced real challenges in 2021 and 2022. Progress was threatened, even in countries emerging from conflict and repression, and including sometimes by the very measures aimed at addressing COVID-19. With increased scrutiny of populations, the pandemic put a spotlight on impunity and highlighted unequal access to services. Survivors in many of these countries remain vulnerable, and AJAR has had to adapt its programs to reflect new circumstances as the region emerges from the pandemic.

2021 and 2022 challenged AJAR and our partners far beyond simply dealing with the day-to-day constraints of the pandemic. Several emerging southeast Asian democracies that had recently shown signs of stepping back into authoritarianism experienced much more dramatic backsliding, affecting our partners and our work. The February 2021 coup in Myanmar followed by the violence unleashed on protestors and dissenters has been devastating for human rights, as has been the increasingly widespread armed conflict as citizens fight to end the military takeover. This has created an extremely difficult situation for AJAR partners and staff to navigate. The continuing unrest in Thailand following the 2014 coup and the 2021 Constitutional Court decision supporting the military leaders, as well as protests against the monarchy, have led to fears of another military coup and more brutal crackdowns in that country. In Indonesia, fundamentalist religious organisations and political parties gained broader influence, while parliament took advantage of COVID restrictions to pass a regressive revision of the Criminal Code – previously rejected following massive demonstrations. Ferdinand Marcos Jr., the son of the notoriously corrupt former president, won the presidency in Philippines, with the daughter of his authoritarian predecessor as his vice. Human rights defenders faced direct threats as they worked to adapt to these challenging new realities, and protecting and supporting them became our

priority over the last two years. In the meantime, Timor-Leste managed to outscore all of its southeast Asian counterparts in several democracy and freedom indices.

The response by governments to the pandemic across the region highlighted the vulnerability of survivors of past human rights abuses. In Bangladesh, Rohingya refugees experienced food shortages, floods and inadequate facilities to protect against Covid-19. In Timor-Leste, restrictions on movement saw a spike in domestic violence, often affecting women survivors, and in Indonesia, survivors of human rights atrocities experienced difficulties accessing government subsidies and benefits. Regional economies suffered with millions of people losing their jobs, and there were allegations of corruption in pandemic-related resource distribution and social welfare programs. Security forces used restrictions on public gatherings of more than a few people to control protests of all kinds, and activists described fears of a move towards a culture of surveillance as a possible outcome of digitally monitoring peoples' vaccination status.

Globally, many governments responded to the Covid-19 crisis by turning inward, focusing on domestic concerns like national health, social programs and the economic crisis. Since the outbreak of the pandemic, we have seen a war in Ukraine and the subsequent energy crisis in many wealthy countries, as well as a global rise in the cost of living. In this context, it has been challenging to refocus global partners' attention on the plight of victims of ongoing mass atrocities in the global south.

In response to these challenges, AJAR adapted its way of working, and produced some exciting results. We have become expert at distance learning, quickly getting up-to-speed with new technologies and methodologies, recalibrating courses and utilising online platforms to deliver workshops and trainings. Innovative use of technology has allowed us to reach ever wider audiences. We have used online platforms for exhibits, workshops and networking, particularly helpful for our colleagues inside Myanmar. With travel restrictions, AJAR played more of a mentoring role, supporting and empowering local facilitators to take the lead with local discussion groups. Now, with the pandemic increasingly under control, AJAR has taken the opportunity to renew person-to-person engagement with colleagues, partners and communities, and has been better able to advocate for emerging needs and priorities. This report

covers two years of operations during these turbulent and uncertain times enabling us to identify emerging patterns that threaten human rights, and which also offer new opportunities for action to protect and promote the rights of victims of atrocities.

With our partners who include survivors, human rights champions and grassroots groups, as well as academics, writers, artists and filmmakers, AJAR focuses on three main areas of work. Our work on justice and accountability involves documenting human rights violations, truth-telling and advocacy, working with survivors and their communities to heal trauma and social damage while fighting the scourge of impunity. Programs to support peaceful and tolerant societies concentrate on strengthening the voices of victims and ethnic and other minorities for strategic advocacy, and ways to foster acceptance of people from less dominant cultures, ethnicities and religions. Communities can reduce tensions that might otherwise be manipulated for political ends, leading to more stable, peaceful and resilient societies. Climate justice, while still quite new to AJAR, links with our ongoing programs with indigenous communities whose traditional lands which they depend on for their livelihoods and cultural survival, are at risk of appropriation and environmental degradation in the name of economic development by extractive industries.

Over this two-year period, AJAR has implemented a wide range of activities in each of the above program areas – at times adapting long-running programs, and at others creating new programs as needs and opportunities arose. This report selects just a few examples to illustrate the range of our work of the myriad programs and activities in each of these areas. Hard work and creativity have characterised the efforts of our staff and partners across the eleven countries where we have operated during the pandemic. We have taken this opportunity to introduce you to some of the committed individuals working with AJAR, demonstrating that the respect and care for humanity that is at the centre of AJAR's work has never been more important than in these challenging times. Our people embody our shared commitment to make a difference to the lives of the most vulnerable survivors, as well as to the communities and countries working to rebuild peaceful, inclusive and rights-based societies following the devastation of conflict and repression.

Patrick Burgess

President

BANGLADESH



● Bangladesh

As part of the 'Justice for All' program, AJAR and its partners are supporting Rohingya women survivors in the refugee camps in Cox's Bazaar, building solidarity to strengthen a multi-ethnic movement for justice. Since March 2019, Asia Justice and Rights (AJAR) and the Liberation War Museum (LWM) of Bangladesh have been conducting participatory action research with more than 80 women in the Rohingya Refugee Camps in Cox's Bazaar. Adapting AJAR's tool developed as part of Unlearning Impunity Series, we created a process to share stories and to heal, while building solidarity and peer support among women survivors

● Indonesia

AJAR with its partners has been working with Papuan women and their allies to fight impunity, take steps to reduce gender-based violence and promote acknowledgment of the truth about human rights violations. Moreover, together with the team in other regions, we assist collective efforts to search for Timor-Leste's stolen children creating a civil society-led process of truth-seeking around this issue in Indonesia, working with existing human rights mechanisms. These initiatives build-on donors' support in AJAR previous project, while consolidating ongoing efforts led by survivors, especially women, by creating intergenerational dialogues within communities on the root causes of human rights violations.

Where We Work

● Myanmar

Although major developments since 2018 have taken place regarding international justice and accountability mechanisms for Myanmar, there is still relatively limited understanding of these mechanisms among civil society, and even less awareness among the broader public. AJAR, along with its partners, has for the past ten years worked on developing and implementing innovative transitional justice programs in Asia, including Myanmar, aimed at addressing gross human rights violations by strengthening civil society capacity for documentation, increasing practical knowledge of transitional justice tools, and by building the general public's awareness and resolve for accountability and reform, as a way to strengthen democracy and peace in Myanmar.

● Timor Leste

AJAR in Timor-Leste, as an organisation working in the field of transitional justice, not only seeks to advocate for state policies to deal with the legacy of past issues to build a new humanist and democratic society, but also sees a need to prepare young people who will be the future leaders to have an understanding of past human rights issues and have a clear vision of democratic and humanist society. We have learned that engaging young people in human rights education, followed by concrete action in their communities is a critical way to ensure that Timor-Leste's hard earned lessons from the past are not forgotten.

Jakarta

AJAR Learning Centre
Bali

Initiatives & Networks



Asia Justice Coalition

Asia Justice Coalition (AJC) is founded by AJAR, Burma Human Rights Network, Centre for Peace and Justice (BRAC University), Burmese Rohingya Organisation UK, The Centre for Policy Alternatives, Fortify Rights, The Global Justice Centre, and The Global Centre for Responsibility to Protect with the secretariat hosted by Amnesty International. A focus of the AJC is seeking justice for the horrific crimes committed against the Rohingya by the Burmese military in 2017, including the killing of some 10,000 people, and the torture and aggravated rape of hundreds of women, leading to the forced displacement of more than 700,000 people.



Global Initiative for Justice, Truth & Reconciliation Coalition

As a member of the Global Initiative for Truth, Justice, and Reconciliation, AJAR and partners worked to identify best practices for supporting women survivors of sexual violence, and children born of rape, in Timor-Leste, Nepal, Bosnia Herzegovina, and South Africa.



Transitional Justice Asia Network (TJAN)

AJAR continued hosting the Transitional Justice Asia Network or TJAN — a regional network established four years ago, with the goal of increasing the capacity of Asia experts to fight for truth, justice, and human rights. This year, TJAN members from nine countries (Indonesia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Bangladesh, Nepal, and South Korea) participated in a series of online trainings and discussions.



Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes (GAAMAC)

GAAMAC is an inclusive network created in 2013 by States, civil society organizations and academic institutions with the support of the United Nations. It works collaboratively to provide a platform for the prevention of atrocities (genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing). GAAMAC assists interested States in operationalizing the prevention of atrocities at the national level through information-sharing, enhancing links among and between States, civil society and academia, and peer-to-peer support.



Global Learning Hub
for Transitional Justice
and Reconciliation

The Global Learning Hub for Transitional Justice and Reconciliation

AJAR joined the initiative of the Berghof Foundation and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, in collaboration with partners from Germany and across the world. The Hub seeks to strengthen partnerships and to advance the policy and practice of transitional justice through dialogue and mutual learning, practice-oriented knowledge generation, capacity development and advice.

AJAR Toolkits for promoting accountability and tolerance

AJAR uses a variety of innovative methods and approaches to promote accountability and tolerance, including :



Documentation

AJAR's teams trained staff at the Aceh TRC on objective methodologies for documenting violations. Thousands of victims in five Asian countries have participated in AJAR's participatory action research in which they increase their knowledge, link with other survivors and record their stories.



Instructive videos

AJAR and the TJAN network produced and used seven, ten-minute videos on different aspects of transitional justice, utilised in trainings in ten Asian contexts and available on-line.



Digital narratives

Short digital films of survivors' stories have been shared with respective communities using YouTube and other platforms.



Film

AJAR has produced documentary films, such as the new *Generation '99*, telling the story of Timor-Leste's vibrant music and art scene through the songwriters and artists' experiences during the periods of mass violations.



Theatre

Survivors in Indonesia, Timor-Leste and Myanmar use theatre as a way to tell their stories and express their emotions.



Podcast

A series of podcast about land-grabbing in Papua was produced in cooperation with national radio station in Indonesia, KBR Prime. The podcast is available on major audio-listening platform.



Television Series

TV series like *The Sun the Moon and The Truth* in Myanmar and *Laloran Justitia* in Timor-Leste, use family dramas, love triangles, football, music and comedy to convey important messages on specific issues. The Myanmar National Police Academy and the Timor-Leste Prison Service have used these television series for training purposes.



YouTube videos

AJAR has produced a range of YouTube short videos that provide survivors with an opportunity to tell their stories, which also acts as a healing process.



Animation

AJAR produced 2 short animated documentaries, *Kontasai* and *8:45*, based on interviews with survivors in Indonesia and Timor-Leste. Both shorts are planned to be screened in schools and festivals for the public to watch.



Travelling exhibitions

Rohingya women survivors embroidered cloth panels of their stories which were sewn into quilts and exhibited in London, with plans for New York and other sites. Timor-Leste mobile exhibition focuses on the historical Marabia massacres and has travelled across the country, inviting those who attended to interact, write stories or add pictures to the panels.



Comic booklets

Summaries of materials, human rights conventions etc. are presented in comic book format in local languages.



Music

Songwriting competitions on rights themes in Timor-Leste, as part of the TV series program, with winners performing at a concert, receiving musical instruments and being included on a CD released with the TV series.



Social media

AJAR conducts a range of programs that utilise social media such as the Voice program for young human rights defenders in Indonesia.



Mobile Phone Application

AJAR is currently producing a mobile app that features Universal Declaration of Human Rights in simple language with accompanying illustration-accessible in English, Burmese and Rohingya-English.



Plain language materials

Summarising long, complex documents making them accessible thereby increasing the impact. For example, writing and producing an illustrated short version of the Solomon Islands TRC Report. Plain language materials relating to international justice mechanisms for the mass violations in Myanmar were produced in English and Burmese and placed online.

Program Highlights

2021

January 2021	Webinar and launch of human rights museum 'Memory Lane' together with TJAN and KontraS Aceh.
February 2021	AJAR and 22 organisations establish #LearningConsortium to strengthen the capacity to address and prevent gender-based violence in Timor-Leste.
March 2021	Month of Truth campaign launched, celebrating 17 days of truth and activism between International Women's Day and International Day of Truth and Dignity.
April 2021	'Cycling for Democracy' civil society bike protest in Jakarta during a major ASEAN event. This civic action took place within the confines of Covid-restrictions at the time, and in solidarity with the movement for democracy in Myanmar.
May 2021	Online premiere and discussion of AJAR's animated documentary shorts: Konta-sai and 8:45 documenting the stories of survivors in Aceh, Indonesia and Timor-Leste.
June 2021	"Truth, Bread, and Tea: A Toolkit for Reintegration of Women Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence and Children Born of War" co-released with the Global Initiative for Truth Justice and Reconciliation (GITJR).
July 2021	Online discussion on "Enduring Impunity in the Time of Corona: A Year After - Community Initiatives Across Asia", sharing lessons from Indonesia, Nepal and Thailand.
August 2021	Launch of the #WithTheRohingya campaign – a 14-day campaign recognising the strength and resilience of the Rohingya, echoing their calls for justice and inclusion.
September 2021	Campaign to commemorate International Day of Peace begins, sharing lessons of peace and transitional justice from Indonesia, Nepal, Sudan, Uganda, El Salvador and Yugoslavia.
October 2021	Release of Manual Series "Learning for Transformation" in Timor Leste to help NGOs working to end violence against women and girls.
November 2021	#16Days of Activism to commit to Ending Violence against Women, starting with the sharing survivor stories through a series of photographs with the theme #WomenSurviving.
December 2021	Online discussion 'Let's speak the truth' organised on Human Rights Day with youth activists to build the movement for democracy and human rights in Indonesia.

2022

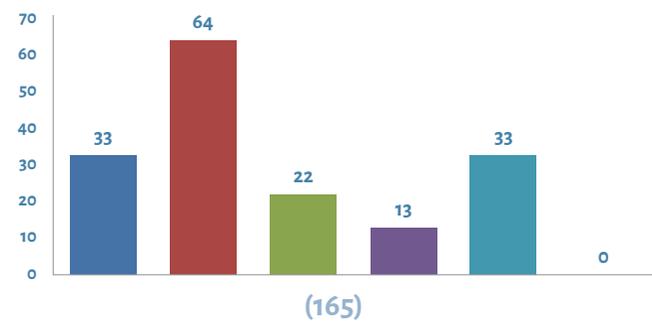
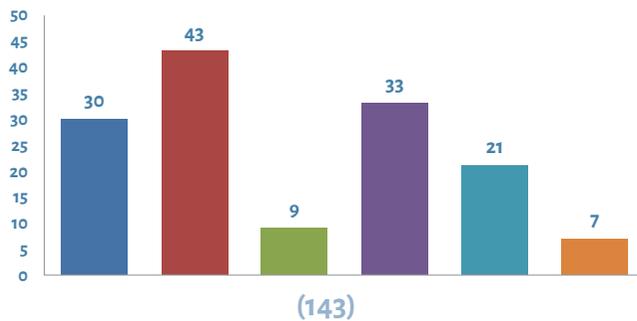
January 2022	Exhibition launched in Bangkok by SEA-Junction in collaboration with AJAR and Raise Three Fingers “Defiant Art: A Year of Resistance to the Myanmar Coup in Images”.
February 2022	Silent strike begins in solidarity with anti-Junta activists in Myanmar.
March 2022	#MonthOfTruth campaign begins by sharing stories of women survivors and their struggle for reparations in conflict-affected areas.
April 2022	Along with partners in Myanmar and Bangladesh, AJAR launch the film “Once it was a home, now only ashes” - part of the #CollectiveTruthSeries.
May 2022	Report launched “Twenty Years On: Timorese Women’s Ongoing Struggle to be Free from Violence”, highlighting the struggle of women survivors of sexual violence for reparation and support.
June 2022	#StopTortureEndImpunity documentary series begins in the lead up to International Day in Support of Torture Survivors, involving a total of 10 short films from inside Myanmar.
July 2022	AJAR and ACbit hold Participatory Action Research (PAR) workshop with women survivors of sexual violence from 10 municipalities in Timor-Leste.
August 2022	2-volume toolkit “Indigenous Peoples and the Right to Truth” released in Indonesian and English by AJAR and ELSHAM Papua, distilling lessons for Indigenous and non-Indigenous human rights organisations and activists. Regional Stakeholders meeting Cross Cultural Foundation (CrCF), Duay Jai Group, Assosiasaun Chega Ba Ita - ACbit, BALAOD Mindanaw, Alternative Law Group and launch of report “Urgent Steps to Ensure Right to Remedy for Victims of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in ASEAN.”
September 2022	Transitional Justice Asia Network (TJAN) and partners gather at AJAR’s training centre in Bali to share experiences and strengthen the ideals of peace in Asia.
October 2022	Release of four introductory videos on ‘Human Rights Documentation’ publicly available and self-paced for human rights defenders in Myanmar.
November 2022	Reunion for the Stolen Children of Timor Leste held by AJAR and Working Group, during which 16 survivors were reunited with their families.
December 2022	16 days of activism to End Violence against Women campaign launched, sharing voices of women survivors from Myanmar, Aceh, Papua, Timor-Leste and Southern Thailand, while calling on ASEAN states to fulfil the victims’ rights to effective remedy.

AJAR in Numbers

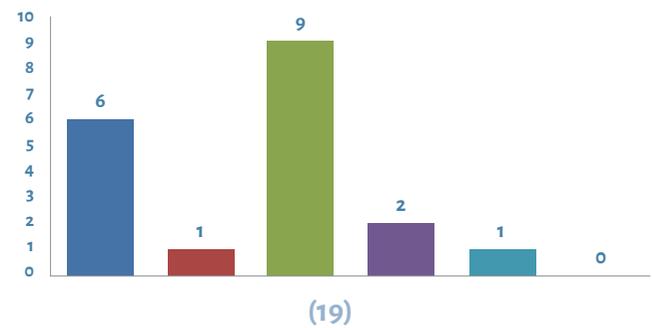
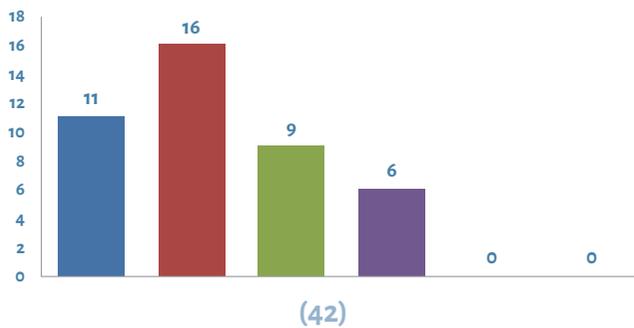
Year 2021

Year 2022

Activities



Product

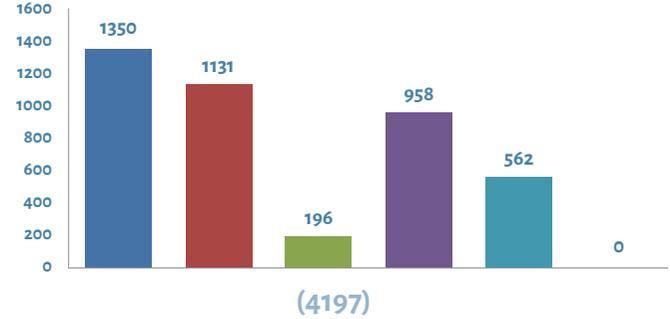
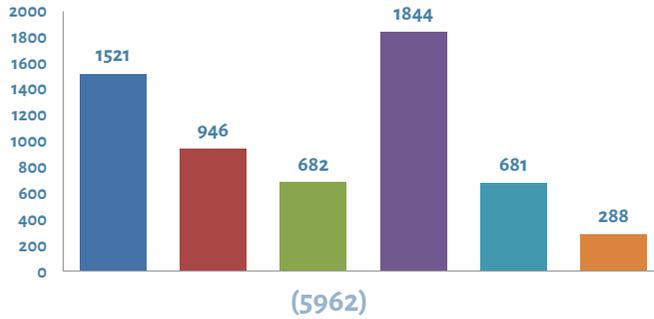


■ Indonesia
 ■ Myanmar
 ■ Bangladesh
 ■ Regional
 ■ Timor Leste
 ■ Sydney Office

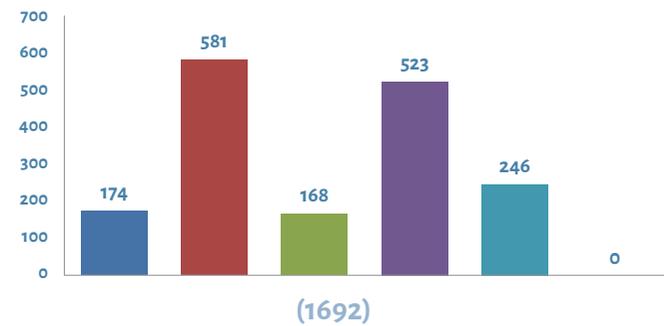
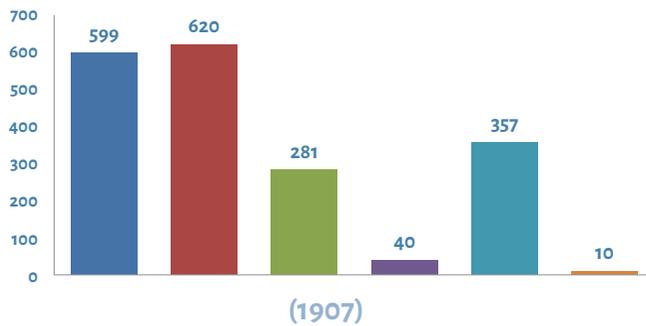
Year 2021

Year 2022

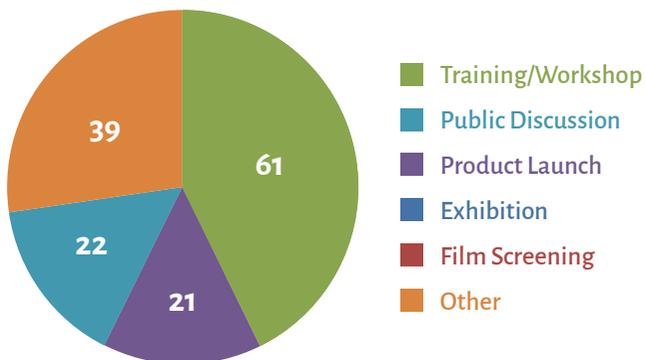
Total Outreach



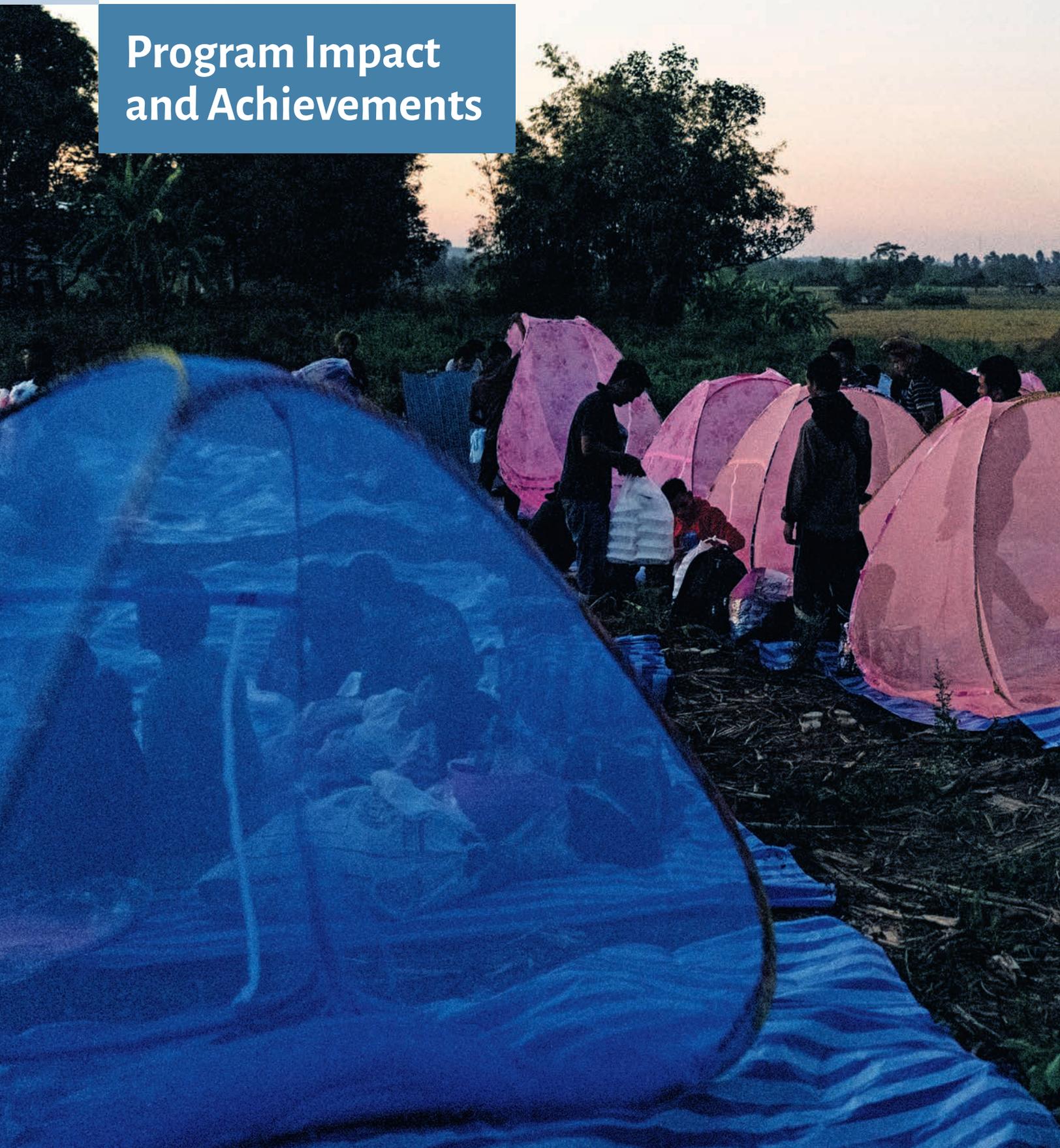
Female Participant



Type of Activity



Program Impact and Achievements





Justice and Accountability

“It is I who can create change and bring justice. Women should stick together to be heard and to make change happen.”

—Workshop participant, Bougainville.

Meet Ma Wyne, from Myanmar



Ma Wyne from Myanmar. © Private

Ma Wyne and her husband are dedicated aid workers who have responded to numerous floods and natural disasters over the years. Early in the pandemic, they left their comfortable jobs in order to help their communities back home. Like most women in Myanmar, Ma Wyne was deeply affected by the

February 2021 coup, but her enthusiasm and passion for helping people was undiminished by the military takeover and, without hesitation, she joined the red ribbon protests and donated food, water and other essentials to the protestors. Some of the young people who she supported were arrested or killed and, because of her help, the military froze her bank accounts and issued arrest warrants for her and her husband. They fled to the jungle along the Thai/Myanmar border, where they had to be constantly on the move to avoid capture by the military.

Ma Wyne became pregnant and later gave birth on the Thai border: *“When I was in the jungle and delivered my baby, I had survivor’s guilt. I was alive and having a baby while the young people I worked with were arrested or murdered by the military. I was very depressed and even thought about suicide.”*

However, even while caring for her new baby, Ma Wyne continued to volunteer and help people who, like herself, had been uprooted from their homes. She works closely with AJAR supporting refugees fleeing the Myanmar military by providing vocational and livelihood skills training.

Meet Ade, son of a 1965-66 survivor from Indonesia

Ade’s father was a survivor of the 1965/66 anti-communist purge in Yogyakarta. His family never talked about what had happened, nor about the stigma his family and the families of other victims suffered, and Ade showed no interest in learning more about that period of history.

In 2022, Ade was introduced to AJAR’s partner, FOPPERHAM. FOPPERHAM was founded by survivors and activists to support victims in Central Java and Yogyakarta. As part of its efforts to heal trauma, it brings victims together to meet up for solidarity and mutual support. FOPPERHAM also helps victims access local health services and, importantly, it partners with the Agency for the Protection of Witnesses and Victims to implement the government’s reparations program. Since 2022, FOPPERHAM has encouraged the children and grandchildren of victims to volunteer in order to help survivors better understand their experiences and the impact of those experiences on their families.



Ade, son of a 1965-66 survivor from Indonesia. © Asia Justice and Rights/Manuel Alberto Maia

In Yogyakarta, Ade met with Simbah, a nickname used for survivors of 1965/66 and which means ‘grandparents’ in Javanese. He heard stories about the time these survivors spent in detention with his father. The stories made Ade realise the stigma that his family and other victims suffered and continue to suffer.

“In a victim’s family the unspoken truth about events in 1965 and 1966 needs to be resolved. The stigma must be removed, and society needs to know that these people are victims, not perpetrators. I want people to know the truth about my father. I don’t want the 1965/66 violence to happen again.”

Meet Abu Toyub, Rohingya student activist from Kutupalong Camp in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh

“AJAR taught me about human rights and how to help victims have a voice. My ethnic community is a victim of genocide by the Myanmar military government. As a refugee, I dream of bringing change to my community and working for an international organisation. AJAR activities have helped me develop myself. Before meeting AJAR, I didn’t know much about human rights and how it works for victims. But now I have greater self-confidence and I am able to give speeches in public. I have found a way to pursue my dreams. I now help run a learning centre with about 50 other Rohingya students.”

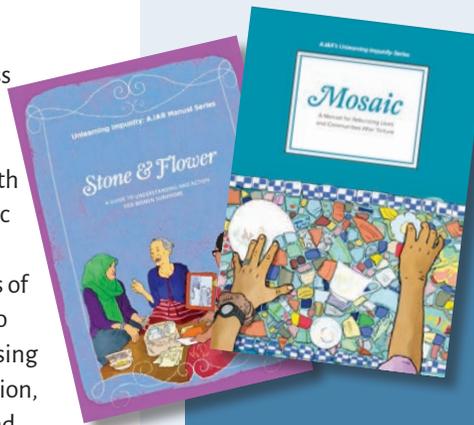
I am a leader of the Rohingya Student Union, and I want to spread the knowledge I got from AJAR to the whole of my community.”

AJAR’s work for justice and accountability for mass human rights violations is based on partnerships with survivors, civil society organisations and, whenever possible, governments. AJAR works with partners to mobilise public support for democratic values and practices that underpin accountable societies. Focusing on the stories and experiences of survivors, AJAR creates campaigns with partners to reach ever wider audiences. This is achieved by using popular education materials, delivered via television, film and social media, that increase awareness and understanding of the right to truth. We provide participatory training to support women and minority groups to speak out on issues that are important to them, as well as providing legal aid and training for victims and vulnerable communities. AJAR also uses creative ways to help heal victims’ trauma. We have developed methods and manuals like ‘Stone and Flower’ designed for women survivors, and ‘Mosaic’ used for victims of torture. At the same time AJAR advocates for accountability and reform with governments and regional and international institutions.



Abu Toyub, Rohingya student activist from Kutupalong Camp in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh. © Asia Justice and Rights/Faisal Bustamam

Selected Program Highlights



Stone and Flower’ and ‘Mosaic’ workshops have been used by more than 1,000 women survivors of serious human rights violations in Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka,

Solomon Islands and Bougainville in Papua New Guinea.

Myanmar

AJAR had to rapidly re-organise and re-strategise in the face of the violence following the February 2021 coup, including making quick decisions to ensure the safety of staff and partners. Creative ways were found to support longstanding partners, especially women’s organisations, to help them meet their immediate needs. At the same time, AJAR established new partnerships as the violence and conflict created difficult dynamics for human rights defenders. AJAR focused its crisis advocacy work on ASEAN and international judicial mechanisms.

In 2021, the Justice Resource Centre website was established, ensuring it was user-friendly and easily accessible by providing materials in local languages on topics including transitional justice, leadership and survivor movements. The Centre also provides tools for leadership and empowerment trainings using AJAR’s Healing Wounds Manual. In 2022, AJAR-trained documenters produced ten articles and five videos on human rights violations from a gender perspective for use by international judicial mechanisms. In the same year, through the Healing Wounds Project, AJAR produced two short animations documenting human rights abuses against ethnic women, which have since been widely distributed.



A look at the Justice Resources Centre website (justiceresources-mm.com) that AJAR in Myanmar developed along with various Burmese civil society organisations and activists. © Asia Justice and Rights

Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh

With international attention focused on the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, the Rohingya refugee crisis increasingly took a backseat. In this neglected environment, AJAR focused its resources on supporting the Rohingya to strengthen their own capacity for truth-telling, documenting atrocities and advocacy work.

AJAR and the Liberation War Museum work together to document human rights violations, and to give renewed confidence to the Rohingya refugees through human rights education. This includes building solidarity between women and men, and across different sectors of the refugee community in Cox's Bazar. AJAR developed participatory action research tools for collective learning for the refugees, and Rohingya women facilitators have used these new skills with their own communities, creating a cascade effect of training and information sharing. In addition, AJAR



AJAR staffers photographed next to a living hope tree quilt made by the Rohingya women from the camp. The tree quilt along with twelve other pieces were displayed in an exhibition in Bangkok, Thailand to raise awareness about the issue. © Asia Justice and Rights/Aghniadi

supported Rohingya women in a truth telling and advocacy project, embroidering a “Quilt of Memory and Hope” which illustrates their stories of suffering and escape.

Indonesia

Indonesia continues to face a range of transitional justice challenges, some with specific regional or historical significance, and others with heightened challenges as a direct result of the pandemic.

In the conflict-affected province of Aceh, AJAR provided expert advice and support to the ground-breaking Aceh Truth and Reconciliation Commission, perhaps the first sub-national truth commission in the world. The Commission completed its final report, with AJAR providing two specialists to assist with the drafting process. AJAR is now advising the Commission on developing a strategy to release the report.

In 2021, AJAR produced the animated documentary “8.45” on the experiences of Acehnese survivors of human rights abuses. The film premiered at the 2021 RealOzIndi Short Film Festival, and at the 2022 Liberation DocFest in Bangladesh, as well as

being broadcast through several local media outlets. AJAR also participated in the civil society-led “Year of Truth” campaign, involving over 50 civil society organisations, which produced research, public hearings and media campaigns that highlighted past mass violations, and provided lessons for present and

taking advantage of people’s increased use of digital communications. AJAR made available a digital channel as a virtual exhibition space for these young artists and their works, ensuring their work reached ever-wider audiences.

As a specific response to the pandemic, AJAR supported partners to reach out to vulnerable survivors of past violations to help them get access to government information, services and other subsidies, as well as assisting them develop livelihood projects, like urban farming, in Papua, Yogyakarta and Aceh.

Timor-Leste

A key priority for AJAR in Timor-Leste was to target its advocacy work by harnessing the new energy generated by a national reparations program for survivors of human rights abuses. We supported the state-mandated *Centro Nacional Chega!*, and the newly established National Working Group on Reparations. In late 2022, AJAR’s Country Director was assigned by the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion to develop a draft national reparations policy, which will be presented to the Ministry in 2023.

AJAR directly supported women survivors, in particular survivors of sexual violence, to mobilise, organise and advocate to be included in reparations programs. The Pirlampu group, established in 2022, is made up of women survivors from all municipalities and mandated to guide the national reparations agenda, and to participate in a three-year interim reparations program supported by the Global Survivors Fund, led by Nobel Peace Laureates Nadia Murad and Denis Mukwege.

Working with another particularly vulnerable group of survivors, AJAR continued its program identifying and reuniting “stolen children”, identifying 16 new survivors and reuniting them with their families. AJAR’s work reached a global audience



AJAR, with Transitional Justice Asia Network, organised a conference in Aceh and exchanged knowledge of best practices made by Aceh Truth and Reconciliation Commission (KKR Aceh). KKR Aceh acknowledged AJAR as strategic partners, in which we continued to assist the Commission leading up to the release of their report.

© Asia Justice and Rights

future generations. At the same time, AJAR’s Fellowship Program supported 30 young people from across the country to attend a one-month intensive online course. Following the course, the participants developed and implemented ground-breaking micro-projects for their communities.

AJAR’s Humanity Project facilitated young people from the provinces of Aceh, Jakarta, Central Java, Yogyakarta, East Nusa Tenggara and Papua to document activities of victims of atrocities, including victims of the 1965 purges, of human trafficking and of child abductions (commonly known as “stolen children”). Their findings were shared through publications in books and magazines and, in collaboration with young artists, they produced powerful artworks and videos. The young activists worked throughout the pandemic,



Women survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in Timor-Leste have formed a new national organisation, Pirilampu Klibur Sobrevivente Feto 1974-1999 (Fireflies Forum of Women Survivors 1974-1999) as a vehicle for self-empowerment, outreach and advocacy. In the picture, some of the survivors are seen signing the declaration of the establishment. © Asia Justice and Rights

when the BBC, ABC and Al Jazeera all produced and broadcast television documentaries about the “stolen children”.

As part of the Right to Truth campaign, AJAR produced an animated documentary, *Konta-sai*, telling the stories of survivors of conflict-era abuses. *Konta-sai* was awarded the best film and best animation at the 2021 RealOzIndi Australia-Indonesia Short Film Festival.

Peaceful and Tolerant Societies

Meet Zecky, LGBTQIA+ activist Timor-Leste

Zecky identifies as a man. Since a young age, he has been discriminated against by his family and his community because of his gender identity. Like many others in the LGBTQIA+ community, Zecky realised that he was different from an early age.

Zecky began to experience discrimination in junior high school while playing soccer. A man told him, “*You are a girl. You shouldn’t play soccer with boys, it’s a boys’ game.*” After graduating high school, Zecky decided to cut his hair only for his parents to comment, “*You are a beautiful girl, why do you cut your hair and want to be like a man? This will bring shame on our family.*”

A friend took Zecky to the Arcoiris organisation, a Timorese NGO founded to support lesbian, bisexual women and trans-gender men, where he met others like himself. After telling his story to a student, Zecky joined AJAR’s human rights school. He learned about his human rights and met people from similar backgrounds. He is now a prominent activist advocating to change community perceptions of the Timorese LGBTQIA+ community, and to help others with different gender identities and sexual orientations. Zecky proudly states that, “*As part of the LGBTQIA+ community we should not be afraid to fight for ourselves. Hold on to the words ‘I am who I am’*”

AJAR’s human rights school has a proactive admissions policy to promote inclusion of people from marginalised sectors of the community, including LGBTQIA+ people, children born of



Zecky (in white shirt) as a speaker in one of the youth-oriented workshop AJAR held in Timor-Leste. © Asia Justice and Rights

conflict-era rape, and those from the poorest families who lacked education opportunities. In 2021 and 2022, 100 students were enrolled in the human rights school.

Meet Ye Hein Aung, from the Myanmar Cultural Research Society

Ye Hein Aung is the Director of the Myanmar Cultural Research Society or MCRS, founded in 2016 to collect and preserve data from different cultures, languages, histories, religions and communities. MCRS has researched historic events and religious and social conflicts throughout Myanmar, and has held seminars to help people understand and celebrate the country's diversity.

"In 2017, we expanded our scope of work by researching and documenting the history of the Rohingya people, and the human rights violations and genocidal acts they experienced. In 2020, we started building a relationship with AJAR to get a better understanding of their work, then in late 2021 we launched our first joint projects—the online Burma Civil War Museum and a photo competition about the Spring Revolution. This included collecting stories of people involved in the civil disobedience movement and a study on the participation of excluded communities in Myanmar.

"In 2022, we became a member of the Transitional Justice Alliance, dedicated to working for transitional justice in Myanmar. Working with AJAR's support reinforced our mission. Even though we had been researching and collecting information, we were unaware of how our information could relate to, and be used, in transitional justice activities. We are very grateful to AJAR, and we are proud of this collaboration. We believe that we can work together in a long-lasting partnership".

Power shifts and transitions out of conflict often exacerbate divisions in society as people take advantage of religious and ethnic differences for political ends. Extremists, exploiting prejudices and ignorance, manipulate social and economic discontent to spread hate and

violence, often using social media to dangerously amplify the effect. AJAR works with minority groups to raise their voices so that they can help stem the rise of intolerance and, instead, support the work of peacebuilding. We use research and participatory tools and approaches with survivors, indigenous women and men and ethnic and other minorities so that they can communicate their concerns and participate in developing joint advocacy strategies and solutions. We collaborate with educators to integrate human rights into curricula and to mobilise young people to become involved in initiatives on human rights, peace and tolerance and respect for equality.



Ye Hein Aung from Myanmar Cultural Research Society. © Private

Selected Program Highlights

Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh

AJAR focused its educational and training programs in the refugee camps on building solidarity between different sectors of the community, especially between genders and different ethnic groups. Rohingya men engaged with women, and became sensitised to issues important to women, for example sexual and gender-based violence. Online training covered a number of issues that included child marriage and human trafficking, while, at the same time, introducing available judicial mechanisms and processes to the trainees. In 2022, some 30 women and 30 men were trained as facilitators and they, in turn, led grassroots discussions on a range of topics involving more than 200 survivors.





One of our facilitator helped sorting out drawings by Rohingya women participants after a workshop in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. © Asia Justice and Rights/Faisal Bustamam

Indonesia

AJAR's "learning from the past for sustainable peace and democracy" focused on four conflict-affected communities in Yogyakarta, Central Sulawesi, South Sulawesi and East Nusa Tenggara. Working with local partners, discussions were arranged between young human rights defenders and victims of atrocities, as well as with relevant local

authorities and the public at large building understanding and empathy for the plight of victims. More than 100 young people participated in these discussions.

Timor-Leste

Despite the challenges of working during the pandemic, AJAR managed to continue its human rights school for young activists, with 100 students participating over the two-year period. Given the country's large young population, a number of AJAR's programs focused on youth as agents of peace and tolerance. AJAR facilitated an exchange program to promote understanding and build better relations between young people who had moved to West Timor in Indonesia after 1999, and those who had remained inside Timor-Leste. In addition, AJAR assisted the *Centro Nacional Chega!* with its work with the Ministry of Education and UNESCO to develop a history curricula that promotes a culture of peace and tolerance. In September 2022, AJAR led a two-day workshop with social science teachers and education coordinators from all 13 municipalities. Our Country Director was part of the team tasked with drafting the training modules for teachers. To support these activities, AJAR produced six mini-manuals and four videos that were developed with partners to promote the values of tolerance, non-violence and diversity.



Screenshots from upcoming documentary, "Kisah-kisah yang Belum Usai/To An Ending Unwritten", about AJAR's work with youth and survivors in Yogyakarta and East Nusa Tenggara. Seen here were the workshops held with FOPPERHAM of Yogyakarta (left) and Kamp 99 communities (right) © Asia Justice and Rights/Manuel Alberto Maia, Komunitas Film Kupang

Climate Justice

“I still have my land, but the police always come to hunt on it. We put up signposts forbidding hunting, but they just ignore them or take the signs away. In the afternoons there used to be deer here, but now there are none, and all the birds are gone.”

— Villager, Kebar Valley

Meet Veronika Manimbu and Rosita Tecuari from Papua

Veronika Manimbu and Rosita Tecuari are Papuan women from different indigenous communities. Veronika is from Kebar, a district in the highlands of West Papua, while Rosita is from Genyem, a valley not far from Jayapura, the capital of the province of Papua. Their villages have much in common, including a history of conflict that led to their villages being denigrated by the authorities as “red villages” controlled by insurgents. Both communities face threats of land-grabbing by extractive industries.

Rosita has been working with AJAR since 2013, documenting women’s experiences of conflict in her village. She participated in community strengthening activities and facilitated documentation processes with a group of women who later founded an indigenous women’s organisation in the village called ORPA (*Organisasi Perempuan Adat*, or Indigenous Women’s Organisation). Rosita leads the organisation which is now an official part of the indigenous tribal governance structure.

Veronika or Vero first became involved with AJAR in 2019, when AJAR was documenting the impact of forest loss on indigenous women. She later worked with AJAR and KPKC GKI, a Papuan church-based organisation, to promote justice and peace, and to strengthen the community in Kebar. Women spoke out about the dramatic impact of forest



Veronika Manimbu and Rosita Tecuari on their visit to Germany, accompanied by AJAR, PUSAKA, and KPKC GKI. © Asia Justice and Rights

loss on their communities and, in 2020, Vero led her community in drafting an open letter to PT. BAPP, a company that had been granted questionable concessions to use customary land for large-scale palm oil production.

Veronika and Rosita mobilised their communities to advocate for change, but after seeing so many cases of unfair appropriation of indigenous lands, they felt they needed to involve many more people. So in late 2022, they visited Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands accompanied by representatives from AJAR, PUSAKA and KPKC GKI. They shared their experiences with young people in universities and study groups, and met people interested in these issues, recounting how indigenous women have been fighting for their forests and livelihoods. They also met with ministries of foreign affairs in all three countries, as well as with officials from the European Union. Veronika and Rosita urged the international community, especially countries with close ties with Indonesia, to support their demands to stop large-scale exploitation by extractive industries like palm oil. The visit raised awareness of how indigenous women have been left out of decisions to do with their land and forests, even though they are subjected to the worst effects of lost and degraded land.

The climate crisis is coming into sharp focus in the “post-pandemic world”. Climate justice is a reasonably new area for AJAR, and we are responding to the crisis by investing in understanding more about how climate change affects indigenous communities, and ways to strengthen our climate justice strategies, emphasising rights-based environmental sustainability and community resilience.

Our approach to human rights includes an awareness of how exploitation of natural resources affects human survival. We promote climate justice by working with communities that suffer disproportionately from the impacts of climate change, seeking solutions to urgent problems, like protecting homes and environments as part of a holistic strategy that strengthens basic human rights. We support partners in their advocacy efforts to stop further environmental degradation and destruction by big business, especially by the timber, mining and agriculture industries.

AJAR works with indigenous and other marginalised communities as they develop responses to threats to their livelihoods. AJAR’s experience in delivering culturally-sensitive human rights education programs will be a key element of our work on climate justice. It will include designing programs with indigenous and marginalised communities on pressing issues, like the link between corruption and natural resource exploitation, by collaborating with local and regional environmental civil society organisations on combined approaches to the environment, resource management and human rights. AJAR’s work with indigenous communities in Papua, particularly with women, is a leading example of our climate justice work.

for indigenous community representatives travel to Europe to highlight the problem and garner support for their cause.

In March 2022, AJAR and the Papuan Women’s Working Group published a report entitled *All the Birds are Gone: Indigenous Women Speak Out against Forest Loss in Papua*. More than 100 Papuan women from five different locations in the provinces of Papua and West Papua took part in this research. The research findings made specific recommendations with regards to Papuans’ rights to land, and the importance of their participation in any discussions to do with natural resource management.

Along with other national civil society organisations, AJAR took part in a hearing on the current situation in Papua with Indonesia’s National Commission on Violence Against Women. The hearing culminated in a decision to hold regular public campaigns, and an agreement to schedule regular meetings between the Commission and Papuan civil society to ensure Papuan issues remain on the national agenda.

Highlights from 2021-2022

Indonesia

AJAR’s ongoing support to community mobilisation and advocacy programs with indigenous communities in Papua helped them shine a spotlight on the appropriation of traditional lands by big business. This included arranging



The *Mampa Wasan* Farmers' Group is located in Keerom district some two hours from Papua's capital, Jayapura. The village is inside a massive palm oil concession on traditional tribal land acquired in murky and controversial circumstances in the early 1980s. As an AJAR workshop participant explained, "We, the traditional community, have no more forests. We can't hunt anymore because the forests have been replaced with palm oil plantations. We, the people of Arso, have to go to Waris to hunt as our forests are gone."

Mampa Wasan has 13 members made up of indigenous women from customary villages in and around Keerom. Many of them were daily workers on the palm oil plantation, but when production stopped they lost their jobs. Their source of income is now limited to planting betel nut in gardens around their houses and selling the produce in the local market.

When COVID-19 hit Indonesia, women found it harder to reach markets because of the absence of public transport and restrictions on market activities. AJAR and KPKC GKI, a local church group, provided seeds and a plot of land to plant vegetables, and ponds to farm catfish. The women met regularly to discuss different issues, and a common topic of discussion was violence against women. The group also found the resources to cover health and school costs for those unable to pay. Now they are planning to set up a cooperative to sell their produce for higher prices.

"The support we have received has given us confidence and enthusiasm. Thank God, this group has helped us help each other. If one of us is happy, all of us are happy."



South-South, Regional and Global Initiatives

"There are many strong people-to-people connections between Indonesia and Myanmar. Like Myanmar, Indonesia has suffered under a long and ruthless military dictatorship, and has experienced many ethnic-based conflicts. Our transition to democracy was challenged by threats from the military, and therefore we have a lot of empathy with the Rohingya people."

"It is important that we challenge the Indonesian government to play a more strategic role on the issue of human rights in Myanmar. It cannot be business as usual. ASEAN's own promise to create a democratic community hangs in the balance. The fact that AJAR represents the voice of civil society from the south, and works in ASEAN countries, gives us credibility."

— Indria Fernida, AJAR's Regional Program Manager

Meet Noi, Director of Cross-Cultural Foundation, Thailand

Pornpen Khongkachonkiet, also known as Noi, is the Director of the Cross Cultural Foundation in Thailand, an NGO working on human rights and justice.

Noi is a member of the Transitional Justice Asia Network or TJAN. She has been involved in mainstreaming the concept of transitional justice and promoting accountability for mass crimes in Thailand. While focusing on injustices faced by the



Noi shared her insights during one of the workshop on peacebuilding and transitional justice, held jointly by AJAR and TJAN in Bali, Indonesia, 2022. © Asia Justice and Rights

Patani community in the south of the country, Noi is also involved in campaigning in other countries, including leading a campaign on the crisis in Myanmar.

“TJAN is a hub of local and national experts who engage with survivors and affected communities of past human rights violations. Some still face serious violence as a result of prolonged conflicts in southeast Asia. As a TJAN expert from Thailand, this platform and its interactive sessions – both online and, now more often, in person – has had a significant impact, empowering our team and our clients and their families.”

Meet Fatou Baldeh, activist and founder of Women in Liberation and Leadership or WILL, in Gambia

Fatou Baldeh has been supporting Gambia’s truth, justice and accountability processes since 2018. WILL is a local collaborator with the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, or ICSC, that partners with AJAR in the Global Initiative for Justice, Truth and Reconciliation. Partners developed a manual for civil

society to fight for their economic, social and cultural rights during different phases of the transitional justice.

AJAR invited Fatou to participate in the transitional justice training for the Aceh Truth and Reconciliation Commission, where she shared her experience documenting the stories of women survivors while assisting the Gambian Truth, Reconciliation and Reparation Commission.

“I came to Bali with the ICSC and learned a lot from AJAR’s work. Much of the work I am doing today is inspired by AJAR. Reflecting on the process of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Gambia, I remembered ideas, like body mapping with survivors, that I learned from AJAR.”

AJAR engages with policy and legal change at national and international levels. We work with international agencies like the United Nations and the European Union, as well as with bilateral agencies and academic institutions. We are a founding member, and serve



Fatou Baldeh from Women in Liberation and Leadership highlighted how transitional justice mechanisms can amplify the voices of women, during a practitioners’ conference in Berlin, Germany, in which AJAR also helped organised. © Konstantin Börner

on the steering committee, of the Asia Justice Coalition, alongside organisations like Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and the International Commission of Jurists.

AJAR co-founded and hosts the Transitional Justice Asia Network that consists of leading civil society organisations from ten countries across Asia that have experienced cycles of violence. More than 100 experts have attended six-day intensive trainings on key justice issues, and TJAN has produced case studies, short instructive videos and other training and advocacy materials.

We have fostered exchanges and linkages among survivor organisations in Asia and the Pacific, as well as groups from the Middle East, Africa and Latin America, with an emphasis on empowering women survivors. AJAR, with partners from four countries transitioning to democracy – Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Myanmar and Sri Lanka – is developing regional, national and community-based strategies to promote accountability, prevent atrocities and support victims' rehabilitation.

Being located in Jakarta is a strategic asset for AJAR, particularly in the aftermath of the 2021 coup in Myanmar. We were able to keep key members of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission for Human Rights, or AICHR, updated on the situation inside Myanmar, while engaging with the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the diplomatic community, especially those with representative missions to ASEAN.

AJAR is in the unique position of having programs both inside Myanmar and in the Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh, where we continued to work during the pandemic and following the coup. In August 2021, AICHR's Indonesian representative used information sourced from AJAR during tense discussions between the ASEAN Foreign Ministers on the human rights situation in Myanmar. Throughout 2021 and 2022, AJAR held regular meetings with AICHR representatives from Malaysia and Thailand and with UN bodies, including the Office of the UN's High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Selected Program Highlights

In March 2022, AJAR along with other NGOs, submitted two Universal Periodic Review reports or UPRs, with a specific focus on Papua's human rights situation, to the 41st session of the UN Human Rights Council. One UPR jointly produced by AJAR and the Papuan Women's Working Group, focused on the rights of women in West Papua. The other report was coordinated by Franciscans International, and emphasised the demilitarisation of Papua, the rights of indigenous peoples, the situation of internally displaced persons, the protection of human rights defenders, the implementation of accountable transitional justice mechanisms and the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment for West Papuans.

AJAR contributed to a comparative multi-country study entitled 'Remedy for Victims of Sexual Violence and Gender-based Violence' that focused on sexual violence in conflict-affected areas across the region. AJAR's partners collected more than 100 stories from victims in Indonesia, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Philippines and Solomon Islands.

AJAR collaborated with the International Criminal Court and the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar, including collecting and presenting testimonies of Rohingya victims, in order to advance accountability.

Work supporting peaceful and tolerant societies included co-hosting a summit on "Protecting Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Asia and the Pacific". 67 people from 20 countries participated recognising that the denial of human rights through state-sponsored discriminatory policies and laws designed to exclude, label and erase ethnic minorities was a regional issue.

In 2021, AJAR assisted in the drafting of the national policy on the establishment of a Commission for Conflict Prevention and Victims' Rights in Solomon Islands, which was adopted by the Cabinet in 2021.

Looking Forward





Since mid-2022, we have been adapting to the region's post-pandemic landscape, with an appreciation of how well our teams and partners adjusted to, and collectively learned from, a demanding two years of working together. We have new ideas, approaches, materials and methods that we are confident will continue to serve our partners well, and will ultimately be of lasting value to the communities where they work. We also hope that other communities and organisations in the region can learn from our experiences.

We are developing new fundraising strategies to strengthen our institutional base, including installing purpose-built infrastructure. We still need to strengthen our digital library and archiving functions and make them more accessible and user-friendly, which we hope will contribute to the body of available knowledge on human rights in Asia and the Pacific.

In the coming years, AJAR hopes to become a regional human rights centre of excellence for south-south collaboration and peer networking, as well as a regional resource and the organisation of choice for knowledge and participatory training on human rights, accountability and justice. We think that the new approaches we developed during the pandemic will continue to mature, and the lessons we and our partners have learned will sustain our vibrant partnerships and programs in the future.

Thank You

Donor

Governments and Multilateral Organisations

- The European Union
- Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands
- Swiss Task Force Dealing with the Past
- Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
- Embassy of Switzerland in Indonesia
- UN Women
- US State Department's Bureau of Human Rights and Labor
- Embassy of the United States to the Republic of Indonesia

Foundation and NGOs

- American Jewish World Service
- Australian Volunteer International
- Bread for the World
- Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor
- Canada Fund for Local Initiatives
- Foundation for a Just Society
- Fund for Global Human Rights
- Global Survivors Fund
- Impunity Watch
- International Development Research Centre
- International Coalition of Sites of Conscience
- Misereor
- Open Society Foundation
- SASCAS- Serviço de Apoio à Sociedade Civil e Auditoria Social/Civil Society Support Service and Social Audit
- Tifa Foundation

Partners

Regional

- Advocacy Forum, Nepal
- Alternative Law Groups (ALG), Philippines
- Asia Democracy Network (ADN)
- Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development
- BALAOD, the Philippines
- Center for Study of Violence and Reconciliation, South Africa
- Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation (CSV)
- Chega! for Us Association (ACbit), Timor-Leste
- Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence (KontraS)
- Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence (KontraS), Aceh, Indonesia
- Cross Cultural Foundation (CrCF), Thailand
- Due Process of Law Foundation (DPLF)
- Elsham Papua, Indonesia
- Global Action Against Mass Atrocities (GAAMAC)

- Global Initiative for Justice, Truth and Reconciliation
- Global Learning Hub Transitional Justice and Reconciliation
- Humanitarian Law Centre, Serbia
- International Coalition of Sites of Conscience (ICSC), USA
- Legal Aid Institute Banda Aceh, Indonesia
- Liberation War Museum, Bangladesh
- The 18 May Memorial Foundation, South Korea
- National Centre for Chega! (CNC), Timor-Leste
- Network for Human Rights Documentation–Burma (ND–Burma)
- Public International Law and Policy Group (PILPG)
- Suriya Women's Development Centre, Sri Lanka
- Tebtebba, the Philippines
- Transitional Justice Asia Network
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission (KKR) Aceh, Indonesia

Indonesia

- Advocacy Institute for Women's Care (eL_AdPPER), Merauke
- Amnesty International Indonesia
- Center for Imagine Society Timor (CIS Timor)
- Coalition of Justice and Truth (KKPK)
- Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence (KontraS)
- Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence (KontraS) - Aceh
- Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence (KontraS) - Papua
- Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence (KontraS) - Sulawesi
- Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence (KontraS) - Surabaya
- East Indonesian Women's Network (JPIT), Kupang
- Forum of Human Rights Education and Struggle (Fopperham)
- Foundation of Legal Aid Association of Indonesia (YLBHI), Jakarta
- Franciscans International
- Humi Inane Foundation, Wamena
- Ikatan Mahasiswa Boven Digoel (IMADI)
- Indonesian Association of the Family of the Disappeared (IKOHI)
- Indonesian Consortium of Human Rights Lecturers (SEPAHAM)
- Institute of Human Rights Studies and Advocacy (ELSHAM), Papua
- Jayapura Support Group
- Kaki Abu Legal Aid Institute
- Katane Support Group
- Komunitas Film Kupang
- KPKC Papua
- Labarik Lakon Community
- Legal Aid Institute (LBH), Banda Aceh
- Legal Aid Institute (LBH), Bandung
- Legal Aid Institute (LBH), Jakarta
- Legal Aid Institute (LBH), Papua
- Lembaga Penelitian, Pengkajian dan Pengembangan Bantuan Hukum (LP3BH) Manokwari
- Lembaga Pengkaji dan Pemberdayaan Masyarakat Adat (LP2MA) Boven Digoel
- Metronome
- Moew Kitchen
- Organisasi Perempuan Adat (ORPA) Genyem
- PAHAM Papua
- Papuan Women's Working Group (PWG)
- Perkumpulan Petrus Vertenten, Merauke

- Project Multatuli
- PUSAKA Foundation, Jakarta
- Serrum
- Skola Musa, Kupang
- SKP Keuskupan Agung Merauke, Papua
- Socio-economic Development for Victims of Conflict (PASKA), Aceh
- Stichting Solidaritet met Papua (SSMP)
- Survivor of Human Rights Crime Solidarity (SKP-HAM), Palu, Sulawesi
- TAPOL UK
- Teratai Hati Papua Foundation, Wamena
- The Coalition of Civil Society Organizations in Papua (KOMASI Papua)
- The Merauke AIDS Prevention Commission (KPA Merauke)
- Udeido Collective
- Universal Music Indonesia
- Watch Indonesia, Germany
- West Papua Netzwerk
- Yasanto Foundation, Merauke

Timor-Leste

- Asistencia Legal ba Feto no Labarik (ALFeLa)
- Asosiasaun Chega! Ba Ita (ACBIT)
- Asosiasaun HAK
- Asosiasaun Unidade Feto ba Dezenvolvimentu (AUFD)
- Centro Comunidade Covalima (CCC)
- Coalition on Diversity and Action (CODIVA)
- Fundasaun Esperansa Enclave Oecusse (FEEO)
- Forum Komunikaun Ba Feto Timor Lorosa'e (FOKUPERS)
- Fundasaun Moris Foun (FMF)
- Hametin Asaun Dezenvolvimentu no Ekonomia Rural (HADEER)
- Hametin Demokrasi no Igualdade (HDI)
- Institutu Mata-Dalan Integradu (IMI)
- Knua Haburan Komunidade (KHC)
- Mane Ho Visaun Foun (MHVF)
- Movimento Feto Foinxae Timor-Leste (MOFFE)
- NGO Forum Timor- Leste (FONCTIL)
- Fundasaun Haburas Moris (FHM)
- Psychosocial Recovery and Development in East Timor (PRADET)
- Raes Hadomi Timor Oan (RHTO)
- Rede Feto
- Rural Youth Action (RYA)
- Seloi Horticultura Produsaun (SHP)
- Uma Pas Baucau
- Ombudsman of Human Rights and Justice
- United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
- United Nations Human Rights Advisory Unit
- UNESCO
- Rede Defensor Direitus Umanus; HR Defenders
- Network
- National Working Group on Reparations (RWG)
- Sentru ba Haburas Movimentu Direitus Umanus- Human Rights School Alumni
- Pirilampu Womens Forum 1974-1999

Myanmar

Due to safety and security concerns, we are withholding the partners list and details of projects.

Governance

AJAR's Governing Board is responsible for guiding the policy work of AJAR and for the governance of the organization. This includes providing a focused and informed voice on matters of policy in Indonesia and internationally, providing leadership and strategic direction in relation to policy and operations; oversight and monitoring of the policies and operations of AJAR; and making decisions on governance and finance matters in the best interests of AJAR.

AJAR's Governing Board

Chairperson

- Ifdal Kasim, lawyer and former chair of Indonesia's national human rights commission (2008-2011)

Members

- Putu Oka Sukanta, writer and acupuncturist, Jakarta
- Zandra Mambrasar, human rights worker, Papua
- Tati Krisnawaty, women's rights advocate, West Java
- Fr. Leo Kleden SVD, educator, Flores
- I Gede Artika, businessman, Bali
- Isna Marifa, environmentalist, Jakarta
- Prihatin Asmidy, business manager, Jakarta
- Rev. Dr. John Campbell-Nelson, educator, Kupang
- Samsidar, human rights worker, Aceh

AJAR's International Board of Advisors

- Ian Martin, UN expert and former secretary general of Amnesty International, New York
- Priscilla Hayner, expert on truth and reconciliation commissions and peace processes, New York
- Somchai Homlaor, jurist, member of the Law Reform Commission of Thailand, and former member of Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Bangkok
- Dr. Jacqueline Hayden, expert on the protection of children in conflict areas, former head of the faculty of early childhood education at Macquarie University, Australia
- David McQuoid Mason, expert on legal aid, founder of Street Law Program, Professor of Law Durban University, Durban
- Kieran Dwyer, expert in human rights communications, New York
- Rosalia Sciortino, formerly senior staff with Ford Foundation and Rockefeller Foundation, expert on ASEAN, Bangkok
- Saku Akmeemana, international lawyer and access to justice specialist, Washington DC
- Howard Varney, expert on investigation and prosecution of mass crimes, advisor to a broad range of TRCs and transitional justice processes, Cape Town
- Dr. Jehan Perera, expert on reconciliation and transitional justice, Colombo
- Mandira Sharma, founder and executive director of the Advocacy Forum of Nepal, expert on transitional justice, combating torture, London/Kathmandu
- Lewis Tyndall, barrister and founder of Climate Roundtable, Sydney
- Pat Walsh, former Advisor to the President of Timor-Leste on reconciliation issues, Dili/Melbourne

Our Team

Regional

- Patrick Burgess, President
- Galuh Wandita, Director
- Richard Manning, Advisor
- Dodi Yuniar, LEAD Manager
- Indria Fernida, Regional Program Manager
- Citra Dwi Ayu, Finance Manager
- Kartika Pratiwi, Regional Fundraising and Donor Relations Coordinator
- Putri Kanesia, Regional Advocacy Coordinator
- Mutiara Kurniasari, LEAD Officer
- Aghniadi, Regional Communications Officer
- Anindya Amanda, Program Officer
- Kirana Anjani, Program Officer
- Nanda Zyitta, Program Assistant
- Neneng Kurniasih, Accounting and Finance Officer
- Hardianto, Grant Administrator
- Syarifah Nur Hidayah, Grant Administrator
- Syafvira Ramadharin, Finance and Administration Officer
- Triana Agustin, Finance and Administration Assistant
- Evi Kristianti, Finance and Administration Assistant
- Bintang Kusumo, Data and Administration Assistant
- Andy Liem, Finance Advisor
- Karen Campbell-Nelson, Institutional Learning and Gender Advisor
- Nicole Janisiewicz, Legal Advisor
- Nick Dobrijevic, Researcher

Indonesia

- Mulki Makmun, Program Manager
- Emmanuella Kania Mamonto, Deputy Program Officer
- Sornica Esther Lily, Program Officer
- Raisa Widiastari, Program Officer
- Julinta Moreng, Program Assistant
- Mustofa, Office Assistant

Timor-Leste

- Jose Luis de Oliveira, Country Director
- Joviana Guterres, Program Manager
- Virginia Manuela Genoveva, Finance Manager
- Georgia Leyendekkers, Associate Program Manager
- Inocencio Xavier, Outreach Officer
- Leonardo Soares, Program Officer and Logistics Support
- Carmellita Amaral, Finance Officer
- Anastacio Madeira, Communications Officer
- Victoria Tomasia, Monitoring & Evaluation, Program Assistant
- Januario de Araujo, Finance and Admin Assistant

Myanmar

Due to safety and security concerns, we are withholding the staff names and details of positions.

Bangladesh

- Luthfunnahar Shancyi, Program Coordinator
- Pia Conradsen, Program Associate
- Nasrin Akter, Program Officer
- Shakila Yesmin, Program Officer
- Dewie Anggraini, Program Officer
- Sumaiya Bashar, Program Assistant

Volunteers and Interns

- Abu Toyub, Bangladesh
- Aurthy Nobeneeta, Bangladesh
- Cezario Cesar da Costa Hornay, Timor-Leste
- Danilo Abilio Soares do Rego, Timor-Leste
- Gibraltar Muhammad, Indonesia
- Rachel Manson, Indonesia
- Ruby Evans, Australia
- Rezki Ameliyah Arief, Indonesia
- Rizky Lani Permata, Indonesia
- Renezio Carvalho, Timor-Leste
- Shamima, Bangladesh
- Sheena Harris, US
- Showkutara, Bangladesh
- Zia Uddin, Bangladesh
- Ignatius Ade Gunawan
- Ika Vantiani
- Ikhana Indah
- Indah Nurmasari
- Irindhita Laras Putri
- Isabelinha de Jesus Pinto
- Janu Wibowo
- Jorguino Savio
- Julia Winterflood
- Kieran Dwyer
- Kurniati Shinta Dewi
- Manuel Alberto Maia
- Marsen Sinaga
- Matt Easton
- Megan Hirst
- Melania Kirihio
- Michael Yan Devis
- Muhammad Rais
- Okky Ardy
- Perdana Putri Roswaldy
- Pujo Nugroho
- Rachel Arinii
- Rifat Najmi
- Rizka Irjayanti
- Ruby Evans
- Sairam Salim
- Sarmento Vargas
- Serlina Sembel
- Sorang Saragih
- Tampan Destawan
- Tati Krisnawaty
- Titiso Kour-ara
- Vikram Sombu
- Waeasmee Waemano
- Wibi Arya

Consultants

- Agah Nugraha Muharam
- Alam Surya Anggara
- Anung Sasongko
- Armin Septiexen
- Ati Nurbaiti
- Atikah Nuraini
- Aviva Nababan
- Bagus Septa Pratama
- Bendrich Oetanu
- Bolu Malu Group
- Diah Ari Tapaningtyas
- Fahmi Sabar
- Frengki Lollo
- Gibraltar Muhammad
- Hendra Saputra
- Ignatia Dyahapsari



AJAR works to rebuild communities
by championing justice for all and
empowering victims and society to
hold perpetrators to account



Indonesia

Jalan Tebet Utara III No. 7
Jakarta Selatan 12820 Indonesia
Tel/Fax: +62 21 835 5550

Timor-Leste

Rua Karketu Mota-Ain 08
Suco Motael, Dili Timor-Leste
Tel/Fax: +670 7723 7170

AJAR Learning Centre

Jalan Pantai Berawa
Gang Sri Kahyangan No.1 Badung
Bali 80361 Indonesia
Tel/Fax: +62 361 474 1462