

Advance Myanmar Ltd

Report & Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Registered Charity Number 1139662

Registered Company Number 07368015

Advance Myanmar Ltd
Report and Financial Statements
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The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Principal aims

The objects set out in our Articles of Association, dated 13 April 2016 are:

- To advance the education of the public with opportunities that will, in particular, enable them to investigate, question and evaluate the situation in Myanmar.
- To develop the capacity and skills of members of the Myanmar community in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.
- To promote human rights (as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent United Nations Conventions and Declarations) and to advance the education of the public in the subject of human rights in Myanmar.
- To prevent or relieve poverty in Myanmar and of refugees from Myanmar.
- To advance the education of the public in the subject of Myanmar's many cultures, heritage and arts.
- To engage in any other charitable activity as the trustees see fit that supports people from Myanmar.

Our work

During 2023, the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar deepened, driven by ongoing attacks by the Burmese military, particularly through airstrikes on villages, schools and hospitals. It is estimated that more than 3 million people have now been displaced since the military coup. As well as a humanitarian crisis, Myanmar is facing a human rights crisis as the military continues to target civil society organisations, activists, journalists, family members or anyone they perceive as opposing them.

In May, Cyclone Mocha struck Northwestern Myanmar, causing further devastation among an already suffering population. The cyclone made landfall in many areas which had been under severe attacks since the coup and where the Burmese military is no longer in direct control. The military blocked international aid agencies, including the UN, from delivering aid to many areas.

Throughout the year, Advance Myanmar has worked hard to support partners in Myanmar. We have provided flexible support to civil society organisations, enabling them to decide how to use the funding according to their priorities.

We have supported human rights defenders directly, helping them hide, flee and continue their work. We have provided humanitarian support across the country, from Sagaing Region in the north, Rakhine State in the west, Karenni State in the east to Taninthayi region in the South.

Our support

Our support can be divided into three areas: humanitarian aid, support to human rights defenders and flexible support to civil society organisations.

Flexible support to civil society organisations

We have adapted our support to the changing situation on the ground. When the military coup started, a lot of our support was tailored to emergency support to activists who needed to go into hiding or flee the country. As the crisis deepened and armed conflict spread to more areas of the country, more of our support went to emergency humanitarian aid, helping local groups get essential food, shelter and medicines to people who could not be reached by major humanitarian agencies.

Now, over three years since the military coup started, we have again tailored our support to focus on core financial support to a number of partners spread across Myanmar. This allows them to use our funding for essential needs of their organisation and fill gaps other donors won't fund. It ties in with how Advance Myanmar wants to operate: as a partner, not a donor, and where the partners are in charge of their own work. In total, we have supported nine partner organisations, spread across the country, with core support. For their safety, we have not disclosed their names here.

Our partners range from human rights organisations, focusing on advocacy, to networks of groups and providers of humanitarian support. Since the military coup, most organisations have engaged in some form of humanitarian support. Our partners have used the funding for advocacy and campaigning, for support to IDPs and refugees, and to support their staff and their organisations.

Humanitarian aid

Thanks to Advance Myanmar support:

- IDPs in Taninthayi region received emergency food.
- IDPs in Karenni State received emergency food and medical aid.
- 2,500 mosquito nets were distributed to IDPs in Karenni State to halt the spread of malaria, dengue fever and related diseases.
- An underground hospital in the jungle kept operating, treating victims of Burmese military attacks at great risk to their own lives. They also provided emergency food to IDPs.

- Targeted emergency support reached some of the worst affected communities in Magway and Sagaing regions, Chin and Rakhine States, after Cyclone Mocha in May.

Support to human rights defenders

We have:

- Funded safehouses, food, electricity and travel for activists to help them stay safe and continue their work.
- Provided food and medicines for political prisoners through a network of activists.
- Helped human rights defenders flee and relocate to other countries so they can continue their work, highlighting the abuses of the military and reporting it to the world.
- Supported remote communities with internet connections so they can communicate with each other and the outside world. Internet has been blacked out in many parts of Myanmar since the coup, which increases the danger they are in.

Financial review

This year we were able to secure further funding to respond to the human rights and humanitarian crisis resulting from the military coup. However, we still need to broaden our donor base and secure new long-term funders. The need in Myanmar continues to grow and without new funders, we are not able to respond to all the requests for help that we receive.

We will focus future efforts on applications to grant making trusts and continue to develop individual giving.

Investment policy

The charity does not currently hold sufficient funds to warrant investment. However, the charity banks with The Co-op, which has a sound ethical banking policy.

Reserves policy

Advance Myanmar's income depends on donations from supporters, major donor gifts and grants from trusts. This is inevitably subject to fluctuation. Advance Myanmar requires protection against and the ability to continue operating despite catastrophic or lesser but damaging events. The financial reserves that we have set aside provide a measure of financial stability and the means to safeguard Advance Myanmar's commitments.

The Board of Advance Myanmar consider it prudent that reserves held should be sufficient:

- to cover approximately six months' of average core expenditure;
- to provide a measure of security for members of staff to whom Advance Myanmar has responsibilities as an employer.

Plans for the future

We will continue to support grassroots organisations and activists. We maximise our impact by supporting organisations and communities who receive little or no support from larger donors. Working directly with local community organisations reduces costs on administration ensuring more aid reaches the communities. In addition, by working with and supporting local community organisations, we help empower communities to address their own problems rather than being passive recipients of aid. Affected communities are best placed to ensure that help goes to where it is most needed and will have the most impact.

Related parties

Burma Campaign UK supports Advance Myanmar by sharing various resources without charge including use of office space, computer systems and telephone line.

Trustees and public benefit

The Trustees in office during the year covered by this report and at its date of publication are set out on page 6.

The Trustees confirm that we have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees, for the purposes of charity law, and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees. The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs and of its surplus or deficit for that period. In doing so, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

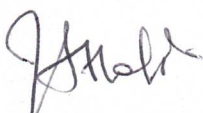
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 1 July, 2024 and signed on its behalf.



Jennifer Holroyd
Director and Trustee

Advance Myanmar

Members of the board and professional advisors

The Board of Trustees	Jennifer Holroyd Bwa Bwa Phan Jack Dunford Eileen Seymour
Charity registration number	1139662
Company registration number	07368015
Registered Office	110 The Bon Marche Centre 241-251 Ferndale Road London SW9 8BJ
Independent Examiner	Frank McDowell FJM Accountancy Limited 23 Shackleton Court 2 Maritime Quay London E14 3QF
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank PLC 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Advance Myanmar Ltd charitable company (the Company)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Association of Accounting Technicians.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Frank J McDowell FMAAT
FJM Accountancy Limited
23 Shackleton Court
2 Maritime Quay
London
E14 3QF

Date: 14 July 2024



Advance Myanmar Ltd
Statement of Financial Activities
(incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024			2023		
		Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Income							
Grants and donations	2	44,041	364,278	408,319	115,188	269,630	384,818
Total income		44,041	364,278	408,319	115,188	269,630	384,818
Expenditure							
Costs of generating funds	3	-	20,735	20,735	-	9,922	9,922
Expenditure on charitable activities	3	124,938	502,584	627,522	213,819	10,683	224,502
Total resources expended		124,938	523,319	648,257	213,819	20,605	234,424
Net (expenditure)/income for the year	5	(80,897)	(159,041)	(239,938)	(98,631)	249,025	150,394
Transfers between funds		(1,346)	1,346	-	92,265	(92,265)	-
Net movement in funds		(82,243)	(157,695)	(239,938)	(6,366)	156,760	150,394
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		82,243	219,635	301,878	88,609	62,875	151,484
Fund balances at 31 March 2024	12	-	61,940	61,940	82,243	219,635	301,878

The statement of financial activities includes all gains or losses for the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Advance Myanmar Ltd
Registered Number: 07368015
Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Current assets					
Debtors	8	1,919		5,995	
Cash at bank and in hand		381,564		297,388	
		<u>383,483</u>		<u>303,383</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>161,543</u>		<u>1,505</u>	
Net current assets			221,940		301,878
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	10		160,000		-
Net assets	11		<u>61,940</u>		<u>301,878</u>
Funds	12				
Restricted funds			-		82,243
Unrestricted funds					
General funds			61,940		219,635
Total funds			<u>61,940</u>		<u>301,878</u>

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that the member has not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 1 July 2024



Jennifer Holroyd
Director and Trustee

Advance Myanmar Ltd
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Net cash used in operating activities:		
Net (expenditure)/income for the year	(239,938)	150,394
Decrease in debtors	4,076	5,929
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	320,038	(37,322)
	<u>84,176</u>	<u>119,001</u>
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year	<u>84,176</u>	<u>119,001</u>
Reconciliation of net debt		
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year	84,176	119,001
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	297,388	178,387
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	<u>381,564</u>	<u>297,388</u>

Advance Myanmar Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year.

Basis of accounting

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Funds structure and accounting

Restricted donations are available for the charity's use only in accordance with the terms under which, and for the purposes which, the funds were donated to the charity.

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

The nature and purpose of each fund is set out in Note 11.

Income recognition

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable.

Investment income is included when receivable.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the statement of financial activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. floor area or estimated usage, as set out in Note 3.

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the schemes.

Advance Myanmar Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 March 2024

2 Grants and donations received

	2024			2023
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Changing Ideas Limited	-	10,000	10,000	-
Vanguard Charitable Concierge Fund	-	272,862	272,862	289,916
Canonesses of St Augustine	4,750	-	4,750	-
The Evan Cornish Foundation	7,500	-	7,500	3,000
Henry Hoare Charitable Trust	-	4,000	4,000	-
Good Care Business	-	5,000	5,000	7,000
OutRight Action International	-	-	-	16,604
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee	17,261	11,367	28,628	12,385
Anonymity requested	8,000	3,000	11,000	-
General appeal	1,530	-	1,530	-
Others	5,000	58,049	63,049	55,913
	44,041	364,278	408,319	384,818

3 Expenditure

	Basis of allocation	Fund-raising	Capacity building	2024 Total	2023 Total
		£	£	£	£
Costs allocated directly to activities					
Grants paid and payable (Note 4)		-	555,117	555,117	158,280
Project costs		-	3,047	3,047	-
Travel		-	4,598	4,598	-
Project costs - web development and IT		-	934	934	889
Fundraising costs		-	-	-	411
Support costs allocated to activities					
Staff costs	Usage	20,257	59,145	79,402	68,849
Staff training	Usage	-	-	-	320
IT, website and office costs	Usage	-	2,092	2,092	2,574
Bank charges	Usage	478	451	929	1,023
Pension and payroll processing	Usage	-	394	394	405
Governance costs:					
Staff costs		-	1,131	1,131	1,060
Accountancy fees		-	600	600	600
Miscellaneous expenses		-	13	13	13
Total expenditure		20,735	627,522	648,257	234,424

£124,938 (2023: £213,819) of expenditure in the year was paid out of restricted funds.

Advance Myanmar Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 March 2024

4 Grants paid and payable	2024	2023
	£	£
Support to partner organisations	<u>555,117</u>	<u>158,280</u>

The political climate in Myanmar is currently such that it is not safe to disclose the names of the charity's grant beneficiaries.

5 Net (expenditure)/income for the year	2024	2023
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Independent examiner's fees	<u>600</u>	<u>600</u>

6 Staff costs and numbers	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs were as follows:		
Salaries	73,772	66,531
Redundancy	3,692	-
Social security costs	3,562	2,010
Pension costs	3,488	3,379
	<u>84,514</u>	<u>71,920</u>

The Charity considers its key management personnel to be the Trustees. None of the Trustees received any remuneration or expenses during the current or preceding year.

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees and made contributions during the year of £3,488 (2023: £3,379). At 31 March 2024 the charity owed contributions of £451 to the scheme (2023: £432).

The average weekly number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents, was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Executive director	1	1
Other	5	5
	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

7 Taxation

As a registered charity, Advance Myanmar Ltd is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

The charity is registered for Gift Aid with HM Revenue & Customs under reference number XT28698.

Advance Myanmar Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 March 2024

8	Debtors	2024 £	2023 £	
	Other debtors	1,919	5,995	
9	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024 £	2023 £	
	Accounts payable	30	30	
	Grant making commitments	160,000	-	
	Social security and other taxation	439	-	
	Other creditors	474	456	
	Accrued expenses	600	1,019	
		161,543	1,505	
10	Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2024 £	2023 £	
	Grant making commitments	160,000	-	
11	Analysis of net assets between funds	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
	Current year			
	Current assets	-	383,483	383,483
	Current liabilities	-	(161,543)	(161,543)
	Long term liabilities	-	(160,000)	(160,000)
		-	61,940	61,940
	Prior year			
	Current assets	82,243	221,140	303,383
	Current liabilities	-	(1,505)	(1,505)
		82,243	219,635	301,878

Advance Myanmar Ltd
Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended 31 March 2024

12 Movement in funds	At 1 April £	Income £	Expend- iture £	Transfers £	At 31 March £
Current year					
Restricted funds					
Human rights defenders	32,243	7,500	(39,368)	(375)	-
Humanitarian response	-	36,541	(35,570)	(971)	-
Phan Foundation	50,000	-	(50,000)	-	-
	<u>82,243</u>	<u>44,041</u>	<u>(124,938)</u>	<u>(1,346)</u>	<u>-</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	<u>219,635</u>	<u>364,278</u>	<u>(523,319)</u>	<u>1,346</u>	<u>61,940</u>
Total funds	<u>301,878</u>	<u>408,319</u>	<u>(648,257)</u>	<u>(1,346)</u>	<u>61,940</u>
Prior year					
Restricted funds					
Activist support and coup response grants	70,049	49,670	(84,992)	(2,484)	32,243
Dirty List	7,538	-	(7,538)	-	-
Strengthening Myanmar grassroots organisations	11,022	-	(47,266)	36,244	-
Emergency humanitarian response	-	15,518	(74,023)	58,505	-
Phan Foundation	-	50,000	-	-	50,000
	<u>88,609</u>	<u>115,188</u>	<u>(213,819)</u>	<u>92,265</u>	<u>82,243</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	<u>62,875</u>	<u>269,630</u>	<u>(20,605)</u>	<u>(92,265)</u>	<u>219,635</u>
Total funds	<u>151,484</u>	<u>384,818</u>	<u>(234,424)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>301,878</u>

Restricted funds

Human rights defenders

We provide support directly to human rights defenders, helping them to stay safe and continue their work.

Humanitarian response

We provide humanitarian aid at times of crisis and to support civilians who have been targeted by the Burmese military and forced to flee their homes. We have provided humanitarian support across the country, from Sagaing Region in the north, Rakhine State in the west, Karenni State in the east to Taninthayi region in the South.

Phan Foundation

A grant to support the work of the Phan Foundation to further their charitable objectives.

12 Movement in funds (continued)

Dirty List

This research project identifies British and other multinational corporations which are operating in such a way as to finance or supply the military in Burma. The published list of such companies can be used by civil society, investors, media, MPs and government to help them to hold these companies to account for their actions.

Strengthening Myanmar grassroots organisations

This project aims at strengthening the capacity of local organisations in Myanmar in their campaigning and advocacy and increase their potential in influencing domestic and international politics to support their communities. Our partner organisations represent marginalised groups including women and ethnic groups.