



Call for Applications: Collaborations and Partnerships for Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to Strengthen Academic and Research Programmes

1. Background

The Pyin-Nya-Man-Daing Programme (PNMD) is seeking to partner with independent Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to strengthen their academic programmes and teaching capacity, with a focus on human rights, justice, and peace.

With years of proven experience, PNMD has successfully supported student-centered teaching methods and academic programmes that integrate and correspond to the local context. Building on this foundation, PNMD Phase II (2026-2028) will expand access to rights-based education and academic leadership through inclusive digital learning and research. Our work will seek to reach students and civil society in hard-to-reach and underserved areas, while continuing to collaborate with local civil society organisations that provide legal aid and support peace and democracy in Myanmar.

To advance this objective, the PNMD is launching a Call for Applications for strategic collaboration and possible partnership with HEIs. Together, we aim to build a local network of academic excellence fostering innovation in human rights and peace education. These collaborations and partnerships will support sustainable institutional engagement, interdisciplinary collaboration, and practical initiatives that bridge academic knowledge with community needs.

2. Objective

The call seeks to identify HEI and like-minded institutions that are committed to integrating human rights and peace education into teaching, learning and research programmes.

Collaborations and partnerships are expected to contribute to one or more of the following specific objectives:

- Build faculty, researcher, and student capacity through review of academic programmes, training, mentoring, peer exchanges, and collaborative learning platforms.
- Strengthen curricular and co-curricular offerings on human rights, peace, and justice within higher education.
- Support interdisciplinary research on human rights, peacebuilding, social cohesion, conflict transformation, and related public policy issues.

- Promote institutional practices that reflect inclusion, academic freedom, participation, and respect for diversity.
- Encourage outreach, public dialogue, and knowledge dissemination that connect education institutions with civil society, communities, and policy actors.

3. Scope of Collaboration

Applicants may propose one or more areas of collaboration, including but not limited to:

- Curriculum review and/or co-development of courses, modules, certificates, or short learning programmes on human rights and peace education.
- Joint research projects, action research, publications, or policy-oriented studies.
- Capacity-strengthening for faculty, training workshops, training of trainers, or pedagogical approaches including digital teaching skills on rights-based and conflict-sensitive teaching methods.
- Events, seminars, conferences, and dissemination initiatives that advance informed discussion on human rights and peace.
- Institutional networking, mobility, or exchange initiatives with other academic or practice-based partners, where feasible and relevant (this shall not be single-standing but connected with one of the other areas of collaboration).

4. Eligibility

Applications are invited from independent higher education institutions, including universities, degree colleges, specialised institutes, academic institutions and higher education consortia. Institutions may apply individually or, where appropriate, in consortium with other academic partners. Registration and accreditation status are not the sole criteria for eligibility.

To be eligible, applicants should:

- Demonstrate institutional commitment to human rights, peace education, social justice, or related fields through existing programmes, research, policies, or leadership support.
- Operationalise in the ethnic based education programmes and have the possible autonomy to conduct the academic education activities.
- Have the administrative and academic capacity to implement agreed activities during the proposed period.
- Show readiness to collaborate in good faith, share institutional learning, and participate in monitoring, reflection, and reporting processes.
- Operate in ways consistent with principles of non-discrimination, inclusion, academic integrity, and learner participation.

5. Priority Considerations

Preference may be given to institutions that:

- Serve conflict-affected, marginalised, or underrepresented student communities.
- Propose interdisciplinary and practice-oriented approaches.
- Demonstrate strong leadership commitment and potential for long-term institutional sustainability.
- Include clear plans for student participation, gender responsiveness, and community engagement.
- Show potential to generate replicable models, research outputs, or policy-relevant knowledge.

6. Collaboration and Partnership Support

Selected institutions will receive one or more of the following forms of support based on the institution strategic priorities:

- Technical assistance for curriculum review, design, pedagogical development, and/or research training;
- Training of trainers, workshops and other capacity-strengthening support
- Access to expert mentoring, academic networks, and thematic resource persons.
- Opportunities for joint academic and research events, including but not limited to publications, and dissemination of research and practice outputs.
- Capacity strengthening for faculty and library staff in academic e-resources and digital learning, as well as full access to online library and learning tools;

7. Application Requirements

Applicants should complete [the google application form](#), or scan the QR code, and submit:



Please note that the last date for the application is **30 May 2026**.

8. Email to Contact for Clarification

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact to spa.academic@pnmdsecretariat.org or sc.adviser@ycu-mm.org

9. Data Protection Notice

All the data will be handled with care by the PNMD in accordance with its data safety policy and will not be shared externally