



Photo Essay

Planting Hope After the Earthquake: A Grandfather's Dream for His Grandchildren

International Committee of the Red Cross



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“My name is Khin Maung Yin, and I'm 59 years old. My wife is Daw Than.
We are farmers and work on our farm all year long.”



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“From sowing to harvest, growing paddy takes four months, and we work in the fields throughout this entire period. After the paddy harvest, we plant chickpeas.”



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“Farming involves many expenses. We pay 700,000 kyats (approximately USD 200) annually to rent the paddy fields, and must also purchase seeds, fertilizer, and cover labor costs for plowing, planting, and weeding.”



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“As we cannot afford to hire laborers, our family handles everything ourselves — from plowing and planting to weeding and harvesting.”



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“The farm we rent is 5 acres, and it yields about 300 baskets of rice when it's ready. We set aside enough for our family to eat for one year and sell the rest.”



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“It has long been my wish to organize a Buddhist novice initiation ceremony for my 11 grandchildren — once we have enough money.”



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“After the earthquake, everything became difficult.
I feared that my dream of holding the novice initiation ceremony for my
grandchildren would no longer be possible.”



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“Then, the ICRC reached out and supported us with three baskets of paddy seeds, two bags of fertilizer, and 360,000 kyats in cash (approx. USD 103).”



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“The paddy seeds from the ICRC are high-quality and very helpful. Because of their quality, we expect to receive a better price at harvest.”



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“Even though I thought this year would be especially difficult...”



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“Thanks to the quality seeds and fertilizer we received, I am confident this year’s harvest will be even better.”



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“When the harvest comes, our family's dream for our grandchildren will be fulfilled, thanks to the ICRC.”

The ICRC has supported over 2,800 people with agricultural recovery assistance since the March 2025 earthquake, helping restore food security and livelihoods in some of the most affected regions.



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