

DR PHO KAUNG

RECTOR, UNIVERSITY OF YANGON MYANMAR

When Dr Pho Kaung, Rector of the University of Yangon, gets up in the morning one of the first things he does is go online to see how the university's institutional repository is being used.

"I want to see how many researchers are studying our research papers, and to check what new papers have been deposited," he explained.

After decades of isolation, Myanmar is opening up to the outside world. The University of Yangon is going through a process of revitalization, taking steps to increase visibility of research and establishing links with leading universities in Asia, Europe and North America.

In 2017, with training, advice and technical support from EIFL, the University of Yangon established an institutional open access repository – University of Yangon Repository (UYR). There are already over 500 publications from 21 university departments in the repository.

Dr Pho Kaung has deposited all his research in physics in the repository.

The repository has made the university more visible.

By the end of 2018, there had been almost 9,000 visits to the repository by people from 85 countries, and over 2,000 research papers had been downloaded.

In 2018: 36 new open access repositories were launched by institutions in EIFL partner countries.



"Now, 20 years after I completed my PhD in physics at Hokkaido University in Japan, my professor and classmates have found me, know what I am doing, and we are in touch again."

–DR PHO KAUNG