



Why is Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) important in Myanmar?

Disaster Risk Reduction includes all efforts that can contribute to risk reduction by analyzing and managing the causal factors of disasters, reducing exposure to hazards, lessening vulnerability of people and property, wisely managing land and the environment, and improving preparedness. IOM Myanmar has been implementing DRR Projects since 2012 and has built on regional experience and lessons learned from IOM's responses to Cyclone Nargis (2008) and Cyclone Giri (2010). IOM supports state and township governments by increasing their capacity and readiness to manage disasters and to reduce their impact. IOM Myanmar works with a range of communities but recognizes that migrants and mobile populations have unique needs and vulnerabilities in the case of natural disasters.



IOM's approach to DRR:

- Enhance national, sub-national and local officials' capacity to reduce disaster risk and manage disaster response through capacity building and technical support.
- Help national, sub-national, community and household level stakeholders to improve coordination.
- Strengthen community and household resilience and capacity to reduce disaster risk through knowledge transfer and infrastructure enhancement.

IOM Myanmar undertakes a range of vital DRR activities:

- Increasing readiness to prepare and respond to natural disasters;
- Strengthening early warning systems;
- Improving construction practices for increased protection;
- Ensuring mangrove protection along the coastline;
- Developing disaster management skills for key personnel;
- Building awareness and preparedness among the public;
- Participating in emergency response.



Shelters for vulnerable communities

“Ma Phyu Phyu sells Mont Ti (boiled rice noodle) to get her daily income to cover the daily needs of the whole family and she doesn’t have enough time or money to repair her house. Sometimes she has to borrow money from others if her daily income is not high enough. For food, she sometimes finds vegetables which grow in the wild. She feels sad during the raining season as her roof has holes and the rain makes almost every part of the house wet. This year, before the raining season begins, IOM Myanmar has started building a house for her family with the support of ECHO. She said she is very happy that she is going to have a new safely constructed house which she does not need to worry about the leaking roof or ask for help from the village, like she did last year. Ma Phyu Phyu said she is now not worried about finding a new place to live.” - Naw Moe Thida Aung, IOM Field Project Engineer.

Improved Disaster Management and Resilience Against Natural Disaster in Rakhine State (IDM-RAND)

IOM leads a consortium implementing the Program for *Improved Disaster Management and Resilience against Natural Disaster in Rakhine State* (IDM-RAND) targeting Sittwe, Minbya, Myebon, Pauktaw and Maungdaw Townships in partnership with Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Swiss Center for Development Cooperation in Technology and Management (SKAT) and Swansee Development Foundation, funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) / Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA).



Building back safer communities in flood and cyclone-affected areas of Myanmar and Improved Reconstruction of Flood and Cyclone Affected Schools

IOM and ACF in partnership will assist the recovery of communities most affected by the extensive floods and landslides caused by Cyclone Komen (2015). Full shelter assistance including material and labour support are provided to 600 vulnerable households and better safe shelter improvement kits provided to 1,000 households and direct WASH assistance will be provided to 50 villages with the support of ECHO.

IOM in coordination with the Ministry of Education, will reinstate access to schooling for children from both communities in

a safer and improved educational environment in flood affected areas in Rakhine State. IOM assists with the rehabilitation of six schools which were damaged by the 2015 floods and Cyclone Komen with the support of SDC.

IOM’s key partners in DDR activities include the Relief and Resettlement Department, the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Education, Rakhine State Government, Mon and Kayin State Government, Local authorities, community based organizations and UN, INGO and LNGO partners.

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