

# Rehabilitation of Community Infrastructure Component

## Skills Development for Youth (SDY) Project





# INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION: RESPONDING TO EMERGENCY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS

The GIZ SDY Project, funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), focuses on improving living conditions, expanding economic opportunities, and upgrading training to support the recovery process in Rakhine State, in close collaboration with civil society organizations (CSOs) and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs).



Through its component Rehabilitation of Community Infrastructure, particularly

after Cyclone Mocha's devastating impact on Rakhine State in May 2023, the Project provided support to the affected communities by rehabilitating damaged infrastructure, including community centers, shelters, roads, and bridges. The Project actively combines Emergency Response and Community Development approaches within a nexus framework. The local population was actively involved in the reconstruction efforts through cash-for-work programs, providing income to those affected and fostering a sense of ownership and empowerment within the community, besides ensuring that the assistance provided is both relevant and sustainable.

Additionally, the component is also contributing to the skills development of the youth in construction-related occupations, providing them with basic to advanced training. Such trainings are meant not only to empower the youth to contribute to the rebuilding efforts, but also to increase their opportunities for employment and economic participation.





# STRENGTHENING THE RESILIENCE OF DISASTER- AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

## Social

- Community halls, multi-purpose centers, training centers, shelters

## WASH

- Water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities, incl. solar-powered pumps

## Transport

- Feeder Roads, pathways, bridges



*In response to disasters like Cyclone Mocha, the SDY project focuses on reconstructing various essential structures to support affected communities. The Project's construction efforts encompass a range of vital elements including shelters, schools, clinics, bridges, pathways, jetties, and WASH facilities. The rehabilitation of these structures is crucial in providing immediate relief and assistance to those impacted by natural disasters.*

### SHELTERS:

**Safe shelters are built with durable materials like reinforced concrete or strong wooden frames to resist cyclones.**

### COMMUNITY CENTERS AND SCHOOLS:

**Rebuilding educational institutions to support continued learning for children.**

### BRIDGES:

**Restoring connectivity and access in regions where transportation routes are disrupted.**

### ROADS:

**Upgrading and rehabilitating feeder roads to enhance the economic and educational development of the communities.**

### MARKET:

**Constructing and rehabilitating vibrant marketplaces to revitalize local commerce, create spaces for trade, and restore a vital hub for community interaction and economic exchange.**

### WASH FACILITIES:

**Providing upgraded water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities for improved community health and well-being**





## LINKING REHABILITATION TO SKILLS AND LIVELIHOODS: The Construction 2.0 Model

The SDY project's "Construction 2.0" approach is a transformative strategy that directly links infrastructure rehabilitation with skills development and cash-for-work. This innovative model moves beyond traditional aid by creating a powerful cycle of recovery: it addresses the urgent need to rebuild critical community assets like bridge, roads and market, while simultaneously investing in the long-term future of Rakhine State's youth. By embedding certified vocational training in trades like carpentry and masonry within paid, on-the-job rehabilitation projects, the initiative provides immediate income and practical, marketable skills. This ensures that every infrastructure project not only restores the community's physical landscape but also builds a more resilient, skilled, and economically empowered workforce for years to come.

The SDY Project focuses on rehabilitating community infrastructure in Rakhine villages and IDP camps affected by Cyclone Mocha. It aims to:

1. Restore basic living conditions for the neediest households
2. Revive essential social services, particularly in education and health
3. Boost economic potentials
4. Rehabilitate training facilities





## COMPLEMENTING COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION WITH ELECTRIFICATION

The electrification of community infrastructure using off-grid solar PV systems after rehabilitation work enables rural communities to regain their buildings and significantly improve their access to clean energy. This, in turn, benefits the immediate community and promotes environmental sustainability by reducing reliance on traditional energy sources, presenting a holistic approach to community development that enhances resilience and productivity for a more sustainable future.

## SDY APPROACH TO WASH INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION

In response to the devastation caused by the Mocha Cyclone in May 2023, the WASH Infrastructure rehabilitation intervention implemented by GIZ-SDY aimed at rebuilding and restoring essential water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities in the affected areas. This intervention not only focuses on providing immediate relief, but also emphasizes the long-term sustainability of infrastructure to withstand future natural disasters. Through collaborative efforts and innovative solutions, the project aims to bring hope and resilience to the communities impacted by the cyclone, ensuring a safer and healthier environment for all.

SDY is overseeing the construction of 11 comprehensive Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) facilities at key community institutions across Sittwe. This critical infrastructure project, implemented by Shwe Shan Thar Engineering Company, involves building water points and related structures, each integrated with a dedicated water purification system. The facilities are strategically located to serve a wide cross-section of the community, including monasteries, schools, an orphanage, and multi-ethnic residential wards in both urban and IDP camp settings. This initiative will provide a permanent and reliable source of safe water for drinking, cooking, and hygiene, directly improving public health and fostering greater community resilience.





## CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION LEARNING PLATFORM



The Construction and Rehabilitation Learning Platform promoted by SDY aims at improving the skills and knowledge of the implementing partners engaged in rehabilitation interventions. The platform focuses on quality and standards from the designing and planning stage, also covering equipment and materials, managing safety and risks, long-term maintaining of buildings, and keeping up with industry trends.

The goal of the platform is to enhance practical skills needed for managing construction projects. By the end of the program, the participants will have strengthened their expertise in handling the challenges of construction projects effectively, ensuring that buildings are built efficiently, meeting international quality, safety as well as sustainability standards.

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## QUALITY ASSURANCE: GIZ' S COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

The quality assurance dimension within the Project's infrastructure rehabilitation interventions plays a crucial role in effectively addressing the technical challenges and the gap between the design and construction at the working sites. By implementing stringent quality control measures, the project aims to deliver sustainable and resilient infrastructure that meets the needs of the communities affected by the Cyclone. Through rigorous monitoring, evaluation, and adherence to best practices, the project team strives to uphold the highest standards of quality and efficiency in every aspect of the reconstruction efforts. This commitment to excellence ensures the project's successful completion and contributes to the affected areas' long-term recovery and resilience.

# TESTIMONIALS

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“I am profoundly thankful to the GIZ Team for their unwavering dedication to the emergency response activities. The construction of numerous shelters provided much-needed refuge and security to families affected by the cyclone. Furthermore, the initiative to involve community members in the rebuilding process not only equipped them with valuable carpentry skills but also paved the way for future employment opportunities. Their determination to aid those in distress is commendable, and I hold great respect for their diligent efforts. I look forward with optimism to the lasting impact their work will continue to have on the community.” said by a villager from Thandar Village, Minbya Township in Rakhine State.



“We extend our deepest appreciation to GIZ for supplying us with these top-notch shelters amidst the challenging circumstances caused by conflicts in Rakhine. Cyclone Mocha severely affected our accommodations, leaving us without a safe place to stay. Our families and children struggled to find rest.

Thanks to these shelters, our living conditions have greatly improved. Our families and children are delighted, and we can now anticipate our upcoming religious celebration, Eid Day, with renewed optimism. These shelters have truly made a positive impact on our lives, and we offer our heartfelt thanks to GIZ and BBS for their assistance.” said by a villager from Ohm Day Chay IDP camp, Sittwe Township in Rakhine State.

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