



Building Back Better

Good Practice Guidance for the Private Sector in Recovery Activities

The private sector has already played an important role in relief for the flood affected townships and will play a still greater role as we take the steps toward recovery, supporting the re-establishment of homes, facilities, livelihoods and services.

With this comes the opportunity to “build back better” – making activities more inclusive and better adapted for Myanmar’s future, making infrastructure more resilient and disaster resilient, and promoting approaches to re-establish livelihoods and independence that can better protect Myanmar’s people.

Some groups tend to be left out, such as the elderly, the very young, female-headed households, people with disability and chronic illness. Some are also often missed when planning how and where to rebuild - especially women and those living in poverty.

This short document draws on development good practice and experience, both from Myanmar as well as internationally, to share ways in which the private sector can use its investments to strengthen recovery activities.

Planning Early Recovery Support

- The needs of men, women, boys and girls are different – be sure to consult these groups when planning recovery activities. Women and girls are often forgotten when planning recovery interventions.

Early Recovery and Health

Women do not stop getting pregnant or having babies during and after a disaster, and young children can often get sick due to the deterioration of water supplies and latrines.

- Replenishing supplies and equipment in health facilities across affected areas can ensure continuation of health and reproductive health services;
- Be sure to continue building capacity of health personnel including female health providers on knowledge and skills related to risk reduction and emergency management;
- Ensure health facilities provide access for women and girls to private counseling rooms which protect the confidentiality and privacy of a survivor of gender- based violence.

*For more information, contact Dr Stenly Sajow, UNFPA,
sajow@unfpa.org*

Early Recovery and Reconstruction

- Be sure the renovation of all buildings, whether homes, health facilities, schools or public buildings, is resistant to possible disasters and hazards, including floods and earthquakes, to better protect the lives of those who use and work in them. All construction should be done in line with existing disaster risk reduction approaches.

- Make any new constructions disability-friendly - something as simple as a sloped walkway and a wider door can open access to people with physical disability.
- Re-establishing community assets such as roads, bridges, schools, and ponds, is a way to strengthen a community's resilience to disaster. Communities should be inclusively involved in every step of the project from the selection of the activity through its implementation - including women, persons with disability, elderly, etc.
- Capitalize on initial gains made in building capacity across the Department of Social Welfare for case workers to support women and girls (who have or may be at risk of experiencing violence) to strengthen systems for longer term response and prevention of violence.
- In reconstructing or refurbishing police stations, ensure private rooms are in place to receive and interview survivors of gender based violence.
- Cash for work can provide an alternative income for short periods to those who lost their livelihood so as to reduce need to migrate for work opportunities Commence 'cash for work' for the clean-up or rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure (for example, activities to clean up debris and mud in the village, pond rehabilitation, bridge and infrastructure repair).

For more information on Cash for Work approaches, contact Nuria Branders, World Food Programme in Myanmar, nuria.branders@wfp.org

Early Recovery and Education

- Schools can be rebuilt to be safer, more hazard resilient and child friendly for little extra cost, with access for children, teachers and parents with disability, and with safe latrines.

For more information on School Construction, contact Ko Zin Min Than, zin-min.than@eda.admin.ch

For more information on Education in Emergencies, contact Marco Grazia, marco.grazia@savethechildren.org

Early Recovery and Food/Cash support

- Multipurpose cash grants allows families to make choices based on their own individual needs for repair, recovery and rehabilitation, reducing the immediate need to migrate for income and stimulating the local economy and markets.
- Provision of a basic food basket, including cash, to affected families can fulfil the immediate food needs of flood affected women and girls, men and boys.
- Self-reliance of flood affected people can be rebuilt through cash or food-based community assets rehabilitation with equal participation of men and women.
- Providing appropriate feeding through pregnant women, nursing mothers and care-takers can prevent infants and young children who are hungry or undernourished due to the crisis from longer-term malnourishment and its negative impacts on their health and development

*For more information, contact World Food Programme in Myanmar, wfpmyanmar.pi@wfp.org
Good Practice Guidance for Private Sector Support, page 2*

Early Recovery and Protection

- Older people and people with disabilities have the right to access and benefit from humanitarian aid and reconstruction programmes on an equal basis with others. Simple tools can be provided and special measures put in place to ensure that their rights are realized.

*For more information on Protection issues, contact Amber Larsen,
larsena@unhcr.org*

- Many of the affected areas, such as Chin, Magway, and Rakhine, had pre-existing high rates of out-migration for both domestic and international migration. As the parents migrate for work, the elderly and children are left behind and are particularly vulnerable. These migrant-sending families should be prioritized for multi-purpose cash grants assistance in the flood-affected areas.
- Migrant workers in flood-affected areas may need temporary support for housing or, if they choose voluntarily to return to their place of origin, transport to their home/origin regions. However, it should be noted that a large scale return of migrant workers to their origin States/Regions if these areas are also flood-affected and there are limited jobs & housing there, may increase tensions and/or burden the areas of origin.
- Areas with severely limited short-term employment or severely damaged agriculture should be prioritized for direct assistance and 'cash for work' programmes to avoid them having to move to other locations between crops.
- The lack of economic opportunities following a crisis can, in some cases, lead to persons among affected populations being more vulnerability to trafficking. Ensure recovery activities include measures to protect vulnerable and at-risk groups of flood-affected persons - such as unaccompanied children, orphaned children, since mothers/women-headed households.
- Promote safe, orderly, and legal migration for employment schemes for people from flood affected areas and be done potentially with private sector, and/or in coordination with other governments in the region.

*For more information on Migration issues, contact Kieran Gorman-Best,
International Organization for Migration - Mission in Myanmar,
kgormanbest@iom.int*

Early Recovery and Shelter

When rebuilding houses, be sure to consider the wider location. Some key questions to consider include:

- Is the location safe or is there a risk of further natural disasters, hazards, pollution?
- Is there a good supply of clean water?
- Will people living there be able to access services such as schools and hospitals?
- Are there livelihood opportunities in this location that will allow them to be self-sufficient?

*For more information on Shelter, contact Edward Benson,
National Shelter Cluster Coordinator, benson@unhcr.org*

*Further queries on this document can be directed to Shon Campbell,
MIMU / Myanmar Information Management Unit, manager.mimu@undp.org*