Connecting communities: Causeway reconstruction for the farming communities of San Remigio

Damaged roads hampered trading activities in many Super Typhoon Haiyan-affected areas. A solution to this problem in San Remigio, Northern Cebu lay in the hands of the residents themselves who participated in rebuilding efforts.

Located along Northern Cebu's central trading route for agricultural goods, Barangay Batad links mountainous Barangays to central markets in the Municipality of San Remigio and even to adjacent Bogo City. However, its causeway was ruined by Haiyan, so farmers had to take an alternative route that stretched the usual 1.5-kilometre travel distance to 5 kilometres. This took a toll on travel time and travel expenses. Also affected was the local community's access to places of work, health centres, schools, and other important destinations.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) worked with the Municipal Government of San Remigio in reconstructing the causeway. The subproject benefitted 225 workers (129 women and 96 men) and indirectly their family members – roughly 1,125 people. Minimum wages, social protection, and occupational safety and health were ensured for workers involved in the sub-project.



Workers prepare the cement that would hold together the stones that would form the causeway's riprap.

Meanwhile, when the project was completed the entire community found it easier to get to their destinations, and farm products were more quickly and cheaply brought to markets.

Having already acquired the necessary know-how, the worker-beneficiaries can later on be tapped by the Local

Government Unit (LGU) for future rehabilitation work on the causeway. Also, the LGU and the private sector intended to employ many of them in other construction activities.

The ILO is grateful for the support it has received from the Government of Japan for its Haiyan Response and its vision to truly Build Back Better.



Emergency Employment and Sustainable Livelihoods after Super Typhoon Haiyan

Implementing partner

 Municipal Government of San Remigio

Funding partner

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