

Rebuilding communities: Quick fix and repair of the Ormoc City Health Office



The public health system of a municipality is crucial to ensuring the physical well-being of its residents. When Super Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) hit Ormoc City, it reduced the functionality of Rural Health Units (RHU) and Barangay Health Stations (BHS) by half. The International Labour Organization (ILO), collaborating with the World Health Organization (WHO) thus saw an immediate need to get the system operational again.

Haiyan destroyed the Ormoc City Health Office's Administrative Building, Laboratory, Tuberculosis—Directly Observed Treatment Short Course (TB-DOTS) facility, and Supply depot. The Health Office's rehabilitation was critical since it was the hub of administrative and operational activities of the local public health system.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) partnered with the Ormoc-Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (OFCCCI) and the World Health Organization (WHO) to improve the delivery of health services in the city, by repairing the damaged facilities.



A worker dons proper personal protective gear while clearing debris outside the Health Office.

Forty-five workers (4 women and 41 men) participated in the sub-project. They were all evacuees internally displaced by the super typhoon, and thus most in need of employment assistance. They received at least minimum wages, social security benefits, and health and accident insurance. During the construction work, they were

provided with appropriate tools and protective gear to enable them to work effectively and safely.

In addition, the unskilled worker-beneficiaries were matched with skilled workers for the duration of the sub-project. This mentoring arrangement facilitated a hands-on transfer of skills that enabled the mentees to have expanded livelihood options after the project.

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

Emergency Employment
and Sustainable Livelihoods
after Super Typhoon Haiyan

Implementing Partner

- Ormoc-Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (OFCCCI)

Stakeholder Organization

- World Health Organization (WHO)

Funding Partner

- Government of Norway



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