



Photo: RIMES

ESCAP TRUST FUND

FOR TSUNAMI,
DISASTER AND
CLIMATE
PREPAREDNESS

STRENGTHENING OF MYANMAR'S MULTI-HAZARD EARLY WARNING SYSTEM



Beneficiary
Countries

Myanmar

Implementing
Partners

RIMES

Budget (US\$)

\$700,000

Duration

**Jun. 2013 to
Dec. 2015**

Related SDGs



PROJECT CONTEXT

Myanmar's Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH), mandated with providing weather and climate services, has seen an increase in development aid in response to major natural disasters (Indian Ocean tsunami, 2004; Cyclone Nargis, 2008). Nevertheless, no framework for the coordination of the inflow of external support existed at the time. This posed a severe threat on the potential efficiency of foreign aid. By identifying and specifying the needs for observations and monitoring networks, and forecasting and warning systems, the DMH improved capabilities to define training needs and better apply donor contributions. Here, especially the formerly identified gaps in earthquake monitoring and tsunami warning, and the lack of decision-support tools on weather and climate forecasts were addressed.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The project aimed to support the DMH in building capacities for the development of multi-hazard early warning systems.

KEY OUTCOMES

- A guidance document was developed to foster synergies in donor assistance to DMH. An annual review will contribute to ensuring coordinated donor engagement, and coherent and effective investment for building the country's early warning systems.
- Myanmar's National Earthquake Data Center (NEDC) now meets UNESCO/IOTWS standards for national tsunami warning centres. Real-time seismic data from remote stations is now available and integrated into SeisComp3, a data acquisition, processing and analysis platform. The NEDC is now connected with the global network and has access to the California Integrated Seismic Network (CISN) and data from the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO).
- Reduction of disaster risk in Myanmar due to increased access to warning information.

