

## ENHANCEMENT OF THE NETWORK OF EVACUATION SHELTERS IN EASTERN SAMAR

## **PROGRAMME**

The enhancement of the network of evacuation shelters in Eastern Samar addresses the need for safe shelter during natural disaster and secure accommodation for the most vulnerable families post-disaster, until a more appropriate and durable shelter solution is provided.

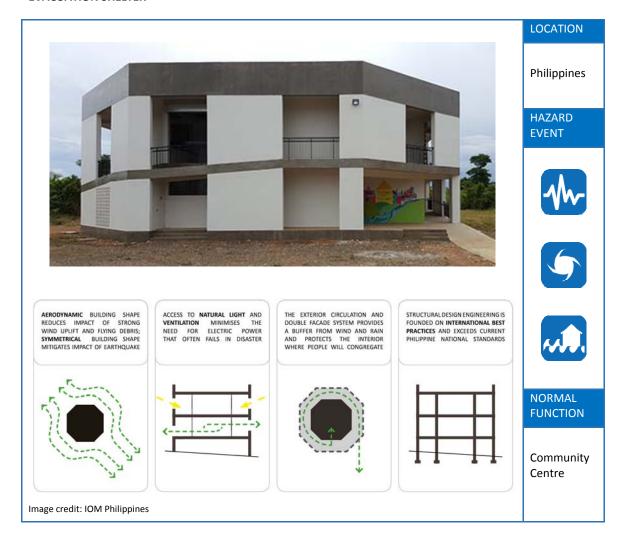
The programme integrates the design and construction of disaster resilient community buildings, within a much broader scope of works to reduce disaster risk and enhance disaster preparedness in communities prone to natural disasters, and importantly to build capacity of local government partners to independently implement disaster mitigation features in public infrastructure projects.

The evacuation shelter is a template designed fit-for-purpose using local construction typologies and materials to promote sustainable building maintenance and operation. The template may be adjusted to site-specific conditions and local community practices to promote replication of the template throughout the country. The shelter will save lives during natural disaster events, mitigate the large-scale displacement that accompanies disasters, and minimize disruption to education, work and social arrangements by providing a better alternative to the common practice of using school and office buildings as evacuation sites.

The design reflects lessons learned from various disaster response and maximizes natural light and ventilation, to reduce the need for electric power which often fails during an emergency. The design features strong sightlines across the open plan to minimize bullying and gender-based violence in crowded emergency situations, and incorporates ramps, handrails, and WAter Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities with improved access for children, elderly and people with disabilities (PWDs). The building includes space for the registration and information sharing needed during mass evacuations. It also has storage space for supplies, generators and fuel. The community evacuation shelter will provide safe shelter for 350+ people in an emergency. It will also serve as a space for the community to gather and socialize during normal periods.

The construction of the pilot building in the Municipality of Guiuan was jointly overseen by the IOM project team and the Guiuan Technical Working Group (TWG) comprised of government officials and representatives from local community user groups. The TWG met regularly for the purpose of responding to project issues, raising public awareness of building availability and use, establishing building management structures for maintenance and operation and advocating resiliency in public buildings. The TWG meetings, facilitated by the local government unit and attended by the IOM project team and the contractor was an effective mechanism for improving transparency and accountability of all project partners and a key initiative in the realisation of the programme.

## **EVACUATION SHELTER**



## International Organization for Migration (IOM)





