



DRC Myanmar | Poverty and Hunger Alleviation through Support, Empowerment, and Increased Networking (PHASE IN II) **via the European Union**

PROJECT SNAPSHOT | **Technical Vocational and Educational Training (TVET) in Rakhine State**

In Myanmar's Rakhine State, youth is gaining new momentum through a DRC-project that offers comprehensive support to young adults to become entrepreneurs and take on productive roles in their communities. The EU-funded Technical Vocational Training programme known as 'TVET' is designed and based on a [youth labour market assessment](#) carried out with [ACF](#) in Sittwe, Kyauktaw and Mrauk-U townships. Anchored in a thorough understanding of context and market dynamics in Rakhine, the TVET programme is furthermore designed to reflect needs and aspirations among youth, and aligned with the [national TVET-programme in Myanmar](#).

TVET trainings in Rakhine enhance job opportunities and encourage self-employment that is supported through phased interventions in the first six months, within two years, and after two years – for short-term, medium-term and long-term outcomes.

Popular trades in Rakhine

Popular micro-business interests among youth in Rakhine are carpentry, sewing and tailoring, motor-bike engine repairs, hairdressing, and beautician services.

While Covid-19 challenges and restricted access forced DRC to downsize 2020 plans ([DRC Rapid Needs Assessment, July 2020](#)), the project in Mrauk-U Township managed to enroll 19 men, aged between 18 and 30 years old in carpentry trainings running from November to December 2020.

Earlier in the year from February to March 2020, 50 women aged between 18 and 30 years old from the same area completed sewing skills trainings. DRC supported additional 25 men in March 2020, through a package of skills that helped them set up and run micro-businesses to help them earn a living.

Business continuity

DRC continues to work with interested TVET graduates through trainings in business planning, financial management, and via grants schemes for small start-ups or scaling up of existing businesses. Some of the women who undertook sewing skills trainings have seen their business grow since the pandemic hit Rakhine and sparked urgent needs for masks in their communities.

PHASE IN II is funded by the European Union and implemented by DRC in Myanmar between 2017 and 2021 in Maungdaw, Mrauk-U, Kyauktaw, Sittwe, and Pauktaw townships of Rakhine State through seven main project components:

Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) ● *Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)* ● *Cash for Work (CfW)* ● *Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA)* ● *Community-driven Development (CDD)* ● *Business start-up Support* ● *Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)*

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