

Press release – For immediate release

UNOPS and Engineers Without Borders Denmark partner for stronger community-led infrastructure

The two-year collaborative framework will support community-led infrastructure, emergency projects and local grant initiatives.

- The new initiative strengthens practical solutions by building local capacity and augmenting support for sustainable infrastructure in communities most in need.

Copenhagen, 3 September 2026.— UNOPS and Engineers Without Borders Denmark (Ingeniører Uden Grænser - IUG) have started a two-year partnership agreement to provide specialized support for community-led infrastructure initiatives.

This collaboration is designed to support the delivery of community-initiated infrastructure solutions by providing knowledge and experience sharing, as well as mutual learning, to small-scale and locally-driven projects.

Under the agreement, IUG will provide specialized advice for local projects with specific infrastructure components. This support will focus on local development priorities, such as water, sanitation and hygiene, sustainable energy, climate adaptation and community infrastructure.

"As global needs evolve, accelerating implementation and scaling up technical capacity to leverage knowledge and experience is essential for meeting the rising demand for sustainable, resilient and inclusive infrastructure solutions. With our partners, we ensure that the delivery of vital infrastructure systems —such as energy, water, transportation and digital communications— is at the centre of our practical solutions", says **Steven Crosskey, Director for the Infrastructure and Project Management Group of UNOPS.**

"UNOPS is behind a great many large and exciting international initiatives...but how do we ensure that local civil society gets projects that actually meet their needs? That is where technical dialogue, before projects are formally proposed and funded, can make a real difference. This is where our volunteers can contribute significantly," says **Peter Horne Zartsdahl, Secretary-General of Engineers Without Borders Denmark.**



By matching technical advice available with communities' needs, this collaboration will strengthen the capabilities of local communities and civil society on project preparation, build local capacities and accelerate the delivery of sustainable, resilient and inclusive infrastructure, supporting the local implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

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About UNOPS

UNOPS offers practical solutions across peace and security, humanitarian and development operations. We help the United Nations, governments and other partners to manage projects, and deliver sustainable infrastructure and procurement across the world. Read more: www.unops.org.

About Ingeniører Uden Grænser (IUG)

IUG is a Danish civil society organization and a member of Engineers Without Borders International. With a professional network of over 1,500 volunteer experts, IUG works with local partners in the Global South to provide technical humanitarian aid, focusing on sustainable energy, WASH, climate adaptation, and community infrastructure.