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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) Philippines: Earthquake

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRPH009
GLIDE n° [EQ-2012-000018-PHL](#)
17 February 2012

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by IFRC in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the IFRC's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 146,331 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to replenish pre-positioned stocks released earlier and to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to 4,500 families (some 22,500 beneficiaries) over a period of three months. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Some ten days after a 6.9 magnitude earthquake struck western Visayas and parts of northern Mindanao in the Philippines, the full impact is only now becoming apparent. Search and retrieval operations continue. As well as causing the loss of 43 lives and injuries to 112 people, the quake damaged at least 14,432 houses. In total, 52,126 families (some 261,100 persons) have been affected.

The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) has been on the ground, responding to urgent needs, since the immediate aftermath of the disaster. As well as deploying emergency response to support rescue operations, PRC dispatched non-food supplies to the earthquake zone, to meet the immediate needs of survivors. Items for 1,500 families were released from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) preparedness stocks. Plans have advanced to send more supplies for another 3,000 families, bringing the total number of families targeted to 4,500.



Roads blocked: A powerful 6.9-magnitude earthquake rocked the islands of Cebu and Negros Oriental in the Philippines. Search and retrieval operations continue. Photo: Philippine Red Cross

As of 14 February 2012, PRC had provided food packages to more than 600 families and non-food relief supplies to some 400 families. Distributions are ongoing, although access to some of the affected areas has been constrained and worsened by widespread rains brought by a low-pressure area. The National Society has also installed one Rubb hall and 30 tents in Guihulngan, Negros Oriental. In addition, Red Cross welfare teams are providing psychosocial support and counselling to affected families in the same area.

Meanwhile, based on the recommendations of the Red Cross teams on the ground, PRC has requested IFRC to provide DREF support. Funds advanced from DREF will enable the replenishment of pre-positioned stocks released earlier (1,500 families) and further delivery of immediate, urgent assistance to some additional 3,000 families (15,000 persons). All the items are either in stock in the Philippines or already on the way to the affected area. This DREF-supported operation is expected to be implemented over three months, to be completed by 16 May 2012. A final report will be issued three months after the end of the operation, i.e. by 16 August 2012.

[<click here for the DREF budget; contact details; and a map of affected areas>](#)

The situation

A 6.9 magnitude earthquake struck western Visayas and parts of northern Mindanao in the Philippines on Monday, 6 February 2012, around noon local time. The quake's epicentre was located in the Tanon Strait, approximately 5 kilometres from Tayasan, between the islands of Negros and Cebu. The highest intensity of the quake was felt in Dumaguete City, the capital of Negros Oriental, and surrounding municipalities at the south-eastern part of Negros Island.

Ten days on, the full impact of the quake is only now becoming apparent. The latest update from the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) indicates that as well as causing the loss of 43 lives and injuries to 112 people, the quake damaged 14,432 houses – 6,366 totally and 8,066 partially. A total of 52,126 families (some 261,100 persons) have been affected in the two provinces of Cebu and Negros Oriental, of whom 8,469 families (42,045 persons) remain in 74 evacuation centres that are still operational. Quake damage to roads and bridges, public buildings and flood control structures is estimated to have reached PHP 365 million (CHF 7.8 million).

Table 1. Effects of the earthquake (as of 16 February 2012)

Details	Total
Deaths	43
Injured	112
Missing	63
# of evacuation centres	74
# of families in evacuation centres	8,469 (42,045 persons)
Persons affected	Total # of families (persons)
Cebu	780 (4,570 persons)
Negros Oriental	51,346 (256,530 persons)
Total # of affected families	52,126 (261,100 persons)
Totally damaged houses	6,366
Partially damaged houses	8,066
Total # of damaged houses	14,432

Although electricity supply has gradually been restored, some road sections in Negros Oriental remain impassable; damaged water supply systems are yet to resume functioning and schools remain closed – some because of damage to their facilities and others because they are being used as evacuation centres. Meanwhile, since 10 February 2012, widespread rains – brought by a low-pressure area – in parts of Visayas and Mindanao have constrained relief and retrieval operations in the quake-hit areas. The combination of rains and aftershocks has prompted people living on mountainous areas to move to makeshift structures (made of tarpaulin) in lower-lying areas due to fear of landslides. Given the uncertain conditions, people are also afraid to return to their existing homes at this point in time.

Coordination and partnerships

The Red Cross Red Crescent operational coordination mechanism has been activated since the launch of separate ongoing interventions in response to Typhoon Nesat and Tropical Storm Washi. Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners continue to share updates on the earthquake situation during routine and ad-hoc coordination meetings. It is upon a request from the National Society that IFRC released pre-positioned supplies that the DREF assistance will be used to replenish.

The NDRRMC (of which PRC is a member) and the humanitarian country team (in which IFRC participates) conducted a joint damage and needs assessment in quake-affected areas on 13-14 February 2012. On its part, IFRC deployed a relief/recovery delegate to Negros Oriental on 11 February 2012. The delegate is on the ground and is supporting PRC staff and volunteers in conducting rapid assessments. IFRC has additional personnel, emergency supplies and resources available in-country and in the region for immediate mobilization, if required.

Other Movement partners with offices in the Philippines – including Australian Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross Society, German Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and The Netherlands Red Cross – have technical delegates (for joint assessments) and resources to support PRC action if requested.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The PRC's operations centre began monitoring the situation immediately after the earthquake struck, and issued advisories and regular updates to its chapters in affected areas. Specialized rescue units were put on standby and deployed shortly after the earthquake. The National Society also deployed emergency response units to support search and rescue efforts on the ground. The teams were backed up by a Red Cross medical team equipped with an ambulance. The teams have since been re-assigned to support relief operations and assessments.

As well as deploying emergency response to support rescue operations, PRC dispatched non-food supplies to the earthquake zone, to meet the immediate needs of survivors. Items for 1,500 families were provided by IFRC from its preparedness stocks. As of 14 February 2012, Red Cross volunteers and personnel on the ground had distributed non-food items to at least 400 families (approximately 2,000 persons). The items comprise blankets, jerry cans and sleeping mats. Also distributed over the same period were food packs for 600 families (approximately 3,000 persons). Distributions continue although access to some of the affected areas has been constrained, worsened by widespread rains brought by a low-pressure area.



**More than 30 PRC staff and volunteers are on the ground providing first aid, relief assistance and psychological support.
Photo: Philippine Red Cross**

IFRC has finalized plans to provide PRC with supplies for another 3,000 families, bringing the total number of families targeted by this DREF-supported operation to 4,500. PRC has also received 1,000 buckets, 1,000 basins, 1,000 tarpaulins and 10 boxes of dressing kits from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The ICRC-supported items reached the local Red Cross chapter on 13 February 2012 and are currently being distributed to some 320 persons.

On other sectors, the National Society has installed 30 tents and a Rubb hall outside the Guihulngan District Hospital in Negros Oriental. The Rubb hall, currently with 25 beds, is serving as a temporary/emergency hospital to accommodate patients who prefer not to stay at the hospital because of aftershocks. Red Cross welfare teams are providing psychosocial support and counselling to affected families in Guihulngan, Negros Oriental. More than 230 earthquake survivors have received psychosocial support from the Red Cross team while 40 have benefited from counselling. Some 50 volunteers from the local Red Cross chapter have been given orientation on how to conduct psychosocial support. They will reach more quake survivors in the coming days.

Having established a clear need for water – owing to damaged supply systems – PRC deployed water filtration and trucking capacity to the quake-hit zone. A water treatment unit and three 10,000-litre bladder tanks are already on the ground and the provision of water is expected to commence shortly.

The needs

Based on preliminary Red Cross rapid assessment findings, which are corroborated by NDRRMC updates, the most urgent needs include potable water, food and non-food supplies, tents, hygiene kits and addressing health impacts related to scarcity of water. IFRC has already provided PRC with relief items for 1,500 families, with plans to send additional supplies for 3,000 more families. There is the need to replenish disaster preparedness stocks released earlier so as to maintain the capacity of the National Society to respond swiftly to future potential disasters. As hygiene conditions are likely to deteriorate due to the lack of access to water, water storage containers (jerry cans) and hygiene kits will be provided as part of the relief pack. Distribution of water, water storage containers and hygiene kits will be complemented with health and hygiene promotion.

The proposed operation

PRC aims to deliver immediate food and non-food items to 4,500 families (22,500 persons) in Negros Oriental. In all, at the end of the operation, 4,500 families will have received essential non-food items – blankets, sleeping mats and jerry cans – and two-day ration food packages. The food packages comprise rice, noodles and sardines. Some 1,500 quake-affected families will also be provided with hygiene kits, supplemented with essential health and hygiene messages. A complete hygiene kit contains five toothbrushes, one tube of toothpaste, one bottle of shampoo, five pieces of bathing soap, five plastic combs, one pack of cotton buds (with 200 pieces), one pack of sanitary napkins (with 10 pieces), one nail cutter/clipper, one bar of washing soap, two packs of disposable razors, two rolls of toilet paper and five face towels. Health and hygiene promotion will be supported with the distribution of information, education and communication (IEC) materials bearing essential messages.

The National Society will ensure that distributions are well organized, orderly, safely and respectfully done. In general, this operation targets earthquake-affected families as a whole rather than individual members of family units.

Relief distributions (food items)

Outcome: Immediate food needs of 4,500 earthquake-affected families are met within one month.

Outputs	Activities planned
The immediate food needs of 4,500 quake-affected families are met through one-off food distributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a beneficiary focusing strategy, including distribution protocols Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on distribution protocols Identify, register and verify beneficiaries Mobilize validated beneficiaries for food distributions Provide, PRC standard food package 1 (rice, noodles and sardines) to 4,500 families (22,500 persons) Monitor and report on distributions

Relief distributions (non-food items)

Outcome: The status of up to 4,500 affected families is improved through timely provision of appropriate relief items within three months.

Outputs	Activities planned
The immediate needs of 4,500 quake-affected families are met through relief distributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a beneficiary focusing strategy, including distribution protocols Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on distribution protocols Register and verify beneficiaries Mobilize validated beneficiaries for relief distributions Distribute blankets (two per family) and sleeping mats (two per family) to 4,500 families (22,500 persons) Provide 20-litre jerry cans (one per targeted family) for household level water storage, to 4,500 families (22,500 persons) Provide hygiene kits (one per targeted family) to 1,500 families (7,500 persons) Track movement of items from point of dispatch to end-user Monitor and report on distributions

Health and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The immediate health risks of 1,500 families (7,500 persons) are reduced through targeted health prevention and promotion activities for three months.

Outputs	Activities planned
Some 1,500 quake-affected families have improved knowledge and practices essential for infectious disease prevention and health promotion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mobilize and train community health volunteers.• Mobilize community members for disease prevention, health and hygiene promotion.• Disseminate relevant disease prevention, health and hygiene messages to 1,500 families (7,500 people) in the target communities.• Distribute information, education and communication (IEC) materials to 1,500 families (7,500 people) in the target communities.• Collaborate with relief and water and sanitation sectors in the conduct of disease prevention and health promotion activities integrated with relief item distributions and water trucking.• Monitor and report on activities.
The scope and quality of the Philippine Red Cross health and psychosocial support services are improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recruit and train community health volunteers.• Produce IEC materials relevant for disease prevention, health and hygiene promotion.• Coordinate with national and local health authorities, ensuring activities are in line with priorities.• Support orientation and training of staff and volunteers on psychosocial support.

Water and sanitation

Outcome: The risk of sanitation-related diseases in targeted communities (1,500 families) has been reduced through the provision of safe water supply in 3 months.

Outputs	Activities planned
Safe water is provided to 1,500 quake-affected families as damaged systems are restored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide safe drinking water in areas where restoration of safe water supply systems is likely to take time.• Collaborate with the relief sector in providing safe water storage containers and hygiene kits to targeted families.• Collaborate with the health promotion sector in highlighting the linkage between safe water handling and storage at household level and prevention of waterborne and water related diseases.• Monitor and report on activities.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation, please contact:

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Please send all pledges of funding to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org



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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
 2. Enable healthy and safe living.
 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
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DREF OPERATION

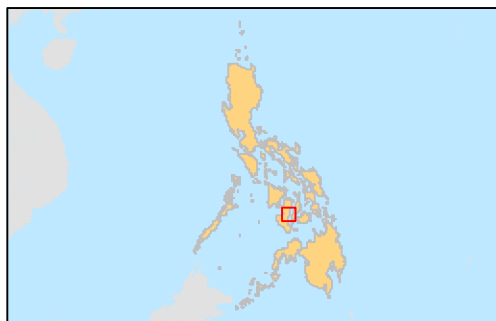
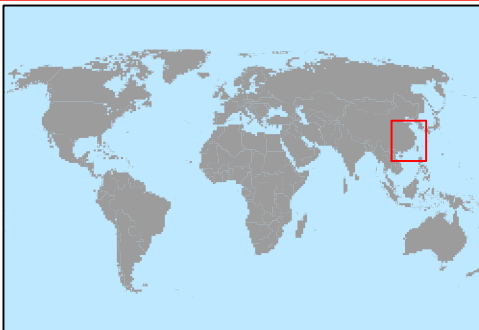
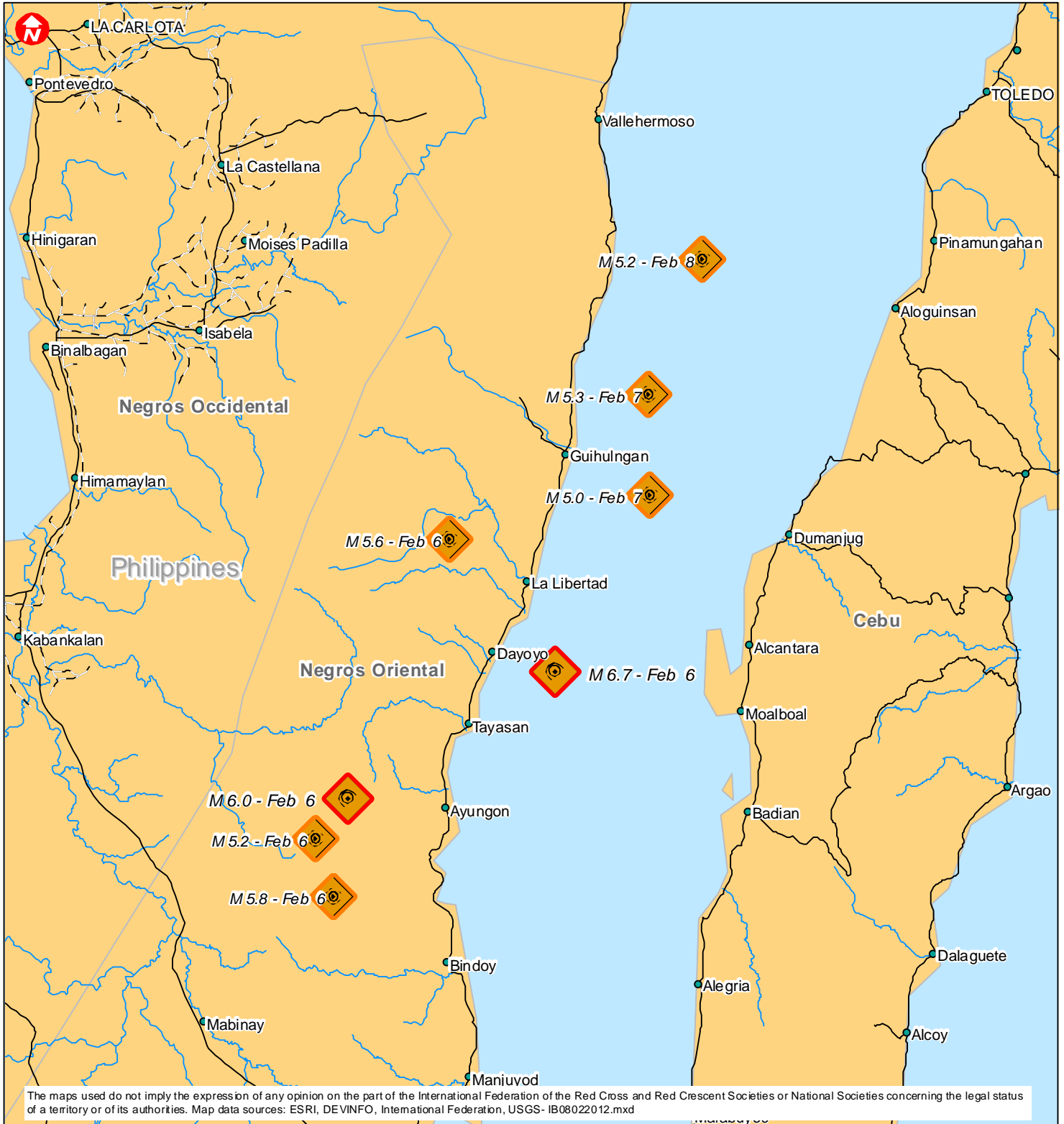
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MDRPH009 PHILIPPINES EARTHQUAKE

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Clothing & Textiles	59,850
Food	20,250
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	49,300
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	129,400
Storage, Warehousing	1,000
Distribution & Monitoring	3,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	1,000
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	5,000
Volunteers	3,000
Total PERSONNEL	3,000
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	8,931
Total INDIRECT COSTS	8,931
TOTAL BUDGET	146,331



Philippines: Earthquake



-  Magnitude 6 (5 quakes)
-  Magnitude 5 (42 quakes)