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Information bulletin Philippines: Floods



Glide n° TC-2018-000113-PHL	Date of issue: 23 July 2018
Date of disaster: 17 July 2018	Point of contact (name and title): Gopal Mukherjee, acting operations manager
Operation start date: N/A	Expected timeframe: N/A
Host National Society(ies): Philippine Red Cross	
Number of people affected: 786,155	Number of people to be assisted: N/A
N° of National Societies currently involved in the operation (if available and relevant): N/A	
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation (if available and relevant): Government of the Philippines	

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Philippine Red Cross (PRC), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has determined that external assistance is not required, and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors at this time.

The situation

On 17 July 2018, Tropical Storm Son-tinh (locally known as Henry) made landfall in Cagayan (northeast Philippines). The storm exited the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) the same day, but it continued to enhance the southwest monsoon which has been affecting the country since early July. On 19 July, Severe Tropical Storm Ampil (locally known as Inday) made landfall on the eastern side of the country which caused more rain over the western part of the Philippines as it further enhanced the monsoon. The storm exited PAR 20 July.

Tropical depression Josie, which formed inside PAR on 21 July and currently affecting the country, is also enhancing the monsoon season, bringing more rain. The tropical depression is currently 450 kilometers northwest of the Philippines and is expected to exit PAR within the day (23 July).

The southwest monsoon, enhanced by the three weather disturbances, has brought scattered and widespread monsoon rain over the Cordillera Administrative Region, National Capital Region, CALABARZON, Western Visayas, Ilocos Region, Cagayan Valley and Northern Palawan. Residents of these regions, particularly those living near rivers, in low-lying areas or mountainous areas, were advised by the Government of the Philippines to take actions against flooding and landslides.

As of 22 July, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) [reports](#) a total of 176,765 families (786,155 people) in 667 barangays in seven regions were affected by the combined effects of the monsoon and weather disturbances. Of the affected, 3,463 families (13,630 people) are inside 102 evacuation centers.

NDRRMC has also reported 59 incidents of landslides, collapsed structures and maritime incidents, as well as 247 areas still flooded. NDRRMC also reported more than 150 houses to have been damaged, of which 10 were totally destroyed. More than 380 million Philippine pesos (7.6 million Swiss francs) worth of damage to infrastructure and agriculture was reported as of 22 July.

State weather bureau PAGASA has forecasted more rain in the coming weeks as the southwest monsoon continues to affect the country. PAGASA has also identified another low-pressure area, located around 450 kilometers east of the country. The weather disturbance is not expected to make landfall but it will continue to enhance the effects of the monsoon. The Government of the Philippines continues to send rainfall warnings and flood advisories through SMS and other media platforms.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action



PRC mobilized an amphibious vehicle to support search and rescue activities. (Photo: PRC)

PRC monitored all three weather disturbances and continually monitor the southwest monsoon affecting the country through its Operations Center which operates 24/7. Information from the chapters regarding the effects and the situation, as well as the chapters' responses, were gathered to ensure proper coordination and timely deployment of support from the National Headquarters as needed. An update regarding the situation has been issued by PRC.

A total of 194 staff and volunteers, including Red Cross 143 and Red Cross Action Teams 143, were mobilized for local response. Furthermore, seven Emergency Response Units – Water Search and Rescue teams were also deployed to augment capacity of local chapters in Bataan and Pangasinan, while four more teams are on standby in Marikina City, Olongapo City and Quezon City chapters. Assets such as boats and rescue vehicles were also put on standby.

PRC has assisted 111 people to evacuate and provided first aid to 36 people. Welfare desks and first aid stations were also established by five PRC chapters. As of reporting, PRC has provided hot meals to 4,432 people in Metro Manila and the provinces of Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pangasinan and Rizal. PRC National Headquarters, with the support of IFRC, also provided 1,500 capsules of Doxycycline (used for prophylaxis) to Pangasinan and Bataan chapters for leptospirosis prevention.

To prepare for a larger response, PRC regional warehouses have been activated for logistical and relief support, blood centers and blood stations were alerted to ensure enough supply and National Disaster Response Teams were put on standby for possible deployment for assessments and emergency relief.

PRC also continues to coordinate with the national disaster council, their local counterparts and the local government units in the affected areas, as well as local and national non-governmental organizations.

The IFRC Philippine country office has been coordinating with the National Society, Movement partners in-country and the Humanitarian Country Team in support of PRC coordination. The country office is also coordinating and providing updates to the Asia Pacific regional office in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. IFRC will also support PRC in mobilizing response units through existing funds of the country office. The country office is also supporting disease surveillance for dengue and leptospirosis. IFRC is preparing to process a possible DREF request for additional support.



PRC provided blood pressure taking services, particularly targeting elders evacuated from their homes. (Photo: PRC)



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Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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 Humanitarian Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The 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.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.

