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Emergency appeal operation update

Philippines: Typhoon Bopha



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency appeal n° MDRPH011
GLIDE n° TC-2012-000197-PHL
Operation update n°2
11 January 2013

Period covered by this Operations Update:
14 December 2012 to 4 January 2013

Appeal target (current): CHF 16,267,217

Appeal coverage: The appeal is 26 per cent covered. Donations are urgently needed to enable Philippine Red Cross to meet the immediate needs of the most vulnerable typhoon-affected families.

[*<Click for donor response list, or contact details>*](#)

Appeal history:

- 21 December 2012: An [emergency appeal](#) launched for CHF 16,267,217 to assist 40,000 families (some 200,000 people) for 18 months.
- 5 December 2012: A [preliminary emergency appeal](#) issued for CHF 4,523,369 to cover 10,000 families (some 50,000 people) for 11 months.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF): CHF 393,198 was allocated to support the national society in its initial response to this disaster.

Summary:

A month after Typhoon Bopha (local name: Pablo) lashed the eastern coast of Mindanao island, the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) has scaled up its response, with focus during the reporting period having been on delivering immediate relief to affected populations. The national society also continued to distribute safe drinking water to those in need, augment medical services, provide psychosocial support, undertake disease prevention and health promotion, support the clearing of debris, and deliver emergency shelter solutions.

As of 4 January 2013, PRC had distributed food items to a total of 43,475 families (some 219,800 persons) and non-food packages to 7,233 families (37,581 persons). As well as the most affected provinces of Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental, the response by PRC has extended to other affected provinces, with significant operations covering Agusan Del Sur, Bukidnon, Palawan, Siquijor and Surigao Del Sur. Distributions are ongoing.

The national society is being supported in its relief efforts by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and partner national societies including Australian Red Cross, German Red Cross, The Netherlands Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross.



Relief items for 9,400 families have already been dispatched to Agusan Del Sur, Bukidnon, Compostela Valley, Palawan and Siquijor. The remaining items are on way, via sea.

Photo: Karl Anthony Ebo/PRC

Specifically through this IFRC emergency appeal operation, as of 4 January 2013, PRC had distributed non-food items (NFI) to some 2,000 families. A complete non-food package under this operation comprises two blankets, two sleeping mats, one 20-litre jerry can and a hygiene kit. In Palawan, which is considered malaria-endemic, the package includes two mosquito nets. Distributions are underway, and all the targeted 17,000 families are expected to have been reached by end of February 2013. Thus far, NFI packages for 9,400 families and tarpaulins for 1,000 families have been transferred from the main warehouse in Manila to the affected provinces. Dispatch of the remaining items - NFI for 7,600 families and tarpaulins for 400 families - continues, with the last consignment expected to arrive on the ground, via sea, by 20 January. Relief distributions under this IFRC-supported operation will specifically cover the provinces of Agusan Del Sur, Bukidnon, Compostela Valley, Palawan and Siquijor.

Apart from relief distributions, PRC continues to undertake disease prevention and health promotion, mainly linked to the provision of hygiene kits, to reinforce safe hygiene practices. At the same time, as Red Cross staff and volunteers distribute relief items, they support the process of identifying households that will potentially be assisted with shelter repair kits. This process has particularly advanced in Palawan and is set to start during the third week of January in Agusan Del Sur, Bukidnon and Siquijor. Other preparatory work initiated in parallel is surveying the local markets to identify suppliers with the capacity to provide shelter material.

To date, contributions have been received from Red Cross Red Crescent partners, government partners and institutional partners – including the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO). Red Cross Red Crescent partners who have contributed are American Red Cross, Danish Red Cross/Danish government, Red Cross of Monaco, New Zealand Red Cross/New Zealand government, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Taiwan Red Cross Organization. The governments of Italy and Japan have also given donations. On behalf of PRC, IFRC would like to thank partners and donors for their immediate response to this present appeal. Funds are urgently needed to enable the national society to meet the immediate needs of most vulnerable typhoon-affected families.

The situation

Typhoon Bopha (local name: Pablo) battered the eastern coast of Mindanao island during the first week of December in 2012. It made landfall as a Category IV typhoon in Davao Oriental on 4 December, then traversed the northern coast mainly affecting the provinces of Compostela Valley, Agusan Del Sur, Misamis Oriental, Siquijor, then made its exit through Palawan. In its report of 25 December 2012, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) says that the typhoon has affected 6.3 million people across 34 provinces, leaving 1,067 people dead and 834 missing. About 87 evacuation centres are still operational, accommodating some 14,000 persons. Some 216,000 houses have been damaged or destroyed.

Table 1. Effects of Typhoon Bopha (source: [NDRRMC](#))

Details	Total
Deaths	1,067
Injured	2,666
Missing	834
# of evacuation centres	87
# of families in evacuation centres (persons)	3,011 (13,940)
Areas affected	Total # of families (persons)
MIMAROPA ¹ (1 province)	1,242 (6,060 persons)
Western Visayas (6 provinces)	2,402 (8,462 persons)
Central Visayas (4 provinces)	18,861 (90,442 persons)
Eastern Visayas (3 provinces)	1,356 (5,884 persons)
Zamboanga Peninsula (3 provinces)	957 (3,572 persons)
Northern Mindanao (5 provinces)	116,017 (523,194 persons)
Davao Region (4 provinces)	415,565 (4,846,450 persons)
SOCCSKSARGEN ² (3 provinces)	12,674 (62,818 persons)
Caraga (5 provinces)	92,558 (446,494 persons)
Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (4 provinces)	50,050 (250,622 persons)
Total no. of affected families	711,682 (6,243,998)
Totally damaged houses	89,666
Partially damaged houses	127,151
Total no. of damaged houses	216,817

¹Provinces of Mindoro Occidental, Mindoro Oriental, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan

²Provinces of South Cotabato, Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani and General Santos City

In addition to causing the loss of lives, displacement of people and destruction to homes for thousands of families, Typhoon Bopha also caused extensive damage to lifelines, property, infrastructure, agriculture and other forms of livelihoods – all amounting to an estimated PHP 37 billion (CHF 840 million). Owing to the significant disruption of public health facilities, including hospitals, health stations, and rural health units, several humanitarian actors – including PRC – continue to augment provision of medical services and other health needs. The situation is most pronounced in the worst-affected provinces of Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental, where there is also a shortage of health staff as many were also affected by the typhoon. Although there has been some improvement in complementing access to medical and health services, and an increased number of consultations for most common health concerns have been reported, unfavourable weather conditions continue to hinder access to the services for thousands of the affected communities.

Severe weather conditions have not only affected access to medical and health services but also highlighted the dire need for sustainable shelter solutions. While tens of thousands of families have received emergency shelter solutions such as tents and tarpaulins from various actors, including the Red Cross, there is the need to support those whose houses were extensively damaged to undertake major repair works in the medium term. With the authorities estimating more than 216,000 houses to be totally or partially damaged and close to one million people displaced, shelter needs remain a top priority. The most vulnerable families whose houses were totally destroyed need assistance to build back better. However, thus far there has been a severe funding shortfall for this crucial sector. The support of donors is vital because without adequate shelter, the most affected people will continue to be exposed to extreme weather conditions. This continued displacement will fuel the risk of disease, with potential of further loss of life.

Tropical Storm Wukong (local name: Quinta) developed in the east of Northern Mindanao during the last week of December 2012, and affected the Philippines between 25 and 27 December, leaving 23 people dead, three missing, and impacting some 79,000 families (377,300 people) as it swept across Visayas and Bicol regions. In the first week of January 2013, a new weather system developed over Northern Mindanao. The system intensified into a tropical storm on 3 January and was named Sonamu (local name: Auring). Tropical Storm Sonamu maintained its strength as it crossed Sulu Sea before making a final landfall in the southern tip of Palawan on 4 January and exiting into the sea, west of Philippines.

The two tropical storms brought rains that caused flash floods, not only in Southern Visayas and Palawan, but also in Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental – which are still reeling from the impact of Typhoon Bopha. The heavy rains and severe weather conditions hampered humanitarian activities to some extent. Dispatch of relief supplies, via sea, under this IFRC-supported operation was particularly impacted as vessels were grounded at ports – in view of tropical storms Wukong and Sonamu – as a precautionary measure. The vessels have since been cleared, supplies on board offloaded at their destinations and the remaining supplies are scheduled to be all on the ground by 20 January 2013.

Coordination and partnerships

Movement coordination: The Movement operational coordination mechanism continues to engage at Manila and field levels. During the reporting period, PRC arranged weekly meetings to brief IFRC, ICRC and partner national societies with in-country offices on its response plan and activities on the ground. On their part, IFRC, ICRC, Australian Red Cross, German Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, The Netherlands Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross updated the national society about their support plans. Movement partners continue to hold meetings on the latest developments and to share plans so as to ensure that their support does not overlap or duplicate, but rather, is complementary. During the last week of December 2012, the acting director/head of operations for IFRC Asia Pacific Zone visited the Philippines and participated in coordination meetings at both Manila and field levels. As well as meeting with PRC leadership, the acting director/head of operations also met with ICRC head of delegation.

Coordinating with authorities: As an auxiliary to public authorities – and as mandated in Republic Act 10072 – PRC continues to maintain a strong relationship with government bodies through participation or collaboration with the following: (i) the NDRRMC; (ii) provincial, municipal and *barangay* (village) disaster risk reduction and management councils; and (iii) local government units. PRC participates in NDRRMC meetings and coordinates with disaster risk reduction and management councils at the provincial, municipal and barangay levels, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Health (DOH) and the relevant government-led clusters that have been activated. The national society is also engaging the relevant authorities in preparation for fulfilling its mandate of leading relief distributions during the election period.

Inter-agency coordination: PRC and IFRC continue to participate in meetings on inter-agency coordination. The cluster approach is implemented in the Philippines on an open-ended basis with IFRC as the shelter cluster lead

in natural disasters. Several humanitarian country team (HCT) meetings have been held since Typhoon Bopha's landfall, with IFRC participating. Red Cross Red Crescent partners are also participating in cluster meetings.

Shelter cluster coordination: In meeting its cluster leadership commitment in the Philippines, IFRC has deployed a shelter coordination team (SCT), comprising a coordinator, information manager, and technical adviser as well as the IFRC Philippines' shelter focal point to Davao City. The team also included an assessment manager and a database/GIS expert during the first three weeks. The SCT has been on the ground since 8 December 2012, and is leading the emergency shelter cluster in coordination with the Government of the Philippines. The team is exclusively dedicated to the task of cluster coordination, independent of PRC and IFRC operations, for the benefit of all cluster partner organizations. It has facilitated the development of the shelter cluster strategy and the technical guidance and standards documents, while providing information management, disaster risk reduction guidance and advocacy on behalf of the affected population to government and donors.

Between 6 and 22 December 2012, the shelter cluster undertook the first detailed damage and needs assessment in Davao Oriental, Compostela Valley and the southern Caraga Region. The assessment report is available [here](#) and it has informed the shelter response strategy. The shelter cluster team continues to engage with agencies operational on the ground to avoid overlaps and gaps in the provision of assistance, and is advocating for appropriate shelter support and solutions to the affected population, while supporting the work of humanitarian agencies in providing timely and effective shelter response.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

A month after Typhoon Bopha, PRC has intensified its relief operations. Supported by IFRC, ICRC and partner national societies such as Australian Red Cross, German Red Cross, The Netherlands Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross, as of 4 January 2013, PRC had provided food packages to some 43,500 families and non-food packages to 7,200 families.

As well as the most affected provinces of Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental, the response by PRC has extended to Agusan Del Sur, Bukidnon, Palawan, Siquijor and Surigao Del Sur. The relief assistance being delivered under this IFRC-supported operation specifically covers the provinces of Agusan Del Sur, Bukidnon, Compostela Valley, Palawan and Siquijor.



A Red Cross volunteer assists a beneficiary lining up for relief distribution in Compostela. (Photo: Karl Anthony Ebo/PRC)

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food items)

Outcome: Immediate food needs of 17,000 typhoon-affected families (85,000 persons) are met through the provision of appropriate food items within three months.

Output(expected result)	Activities planned
The immediate food needs of 17,000 families are met through food distributions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on distribution protocols. • Identify, register, verify and mobilize beneficiaries for food distributions. • Distribute food packages to 17,000 families (85,000 persons). • Undertake real-time needs assessments to identify families in need of additional relief assistance. • Monitor and report on distributions.

Progress

PRC has been active on the ground since the typhoon made landfall. As of 4 January 2013, the national society had distributed food packages to 43,475 families (some 219,800 persons) in the provinces of Agusan del Sur, Bukidnon, Compostela Valley, Davao del Norte, Davao Oriental, Misamis Oriental, Palawan, Siquijor and Surigao del Sur. The packages were provided by other partners, including some from outside the Movement.

Thus far, no food distributions have been undertaken in the context of this IFRC-supported operation. Nevertheless, the procurement process has advanced, successful suppliers selected, delivery of the items has started and is expected to be completed by the end of January. Packing of items that have been delivered is ongoing prior to their dispatch to the ground in the coming days. Each package comprises 12 kilos of rice, 10 packs of instant noodles, eight cans of corned beef, six cans of sardines, two kilos of green gram, a 250-gramme packet of iodized salt, a kilo of sugar, a litre of cooking oil, and one bottle of liquid seasoning.

Relief distributions (non-food items)

Outcome: The living conditions of 17,000 affected families (85,000 persons) are improved through the provision of appropriate non-food items within four months.

Output(expected result)	Activities planned
The immediate needs of 17,000 families that have incurred losses or damage to household items are met through distribution of non-food items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on distribution protocols.• Identify, register, verify and mobilize beneficiaries for distributions.• Distribute blankets (two per family) and sleeping mats (two per family) to 17,000 families (85,000 persons).• Distribute jerry cans, for household level water storage, to 17,000 families (85,000 persons).• Distribute hygiene kits to 17,000 families (85,000 persons) (<i>see also health and care</i>).• Distribute kitchen sets to 2,200 families (11,000 persons).• Undertake real-time needs assessments to identify families in need of additional relief assistance.• Conduct post-distribution surveys.• Monitor and report on distributions.

Progress

As of 4 January 2013, PRC had distributed non-food packages to 7,233 families (37,581 persons) in the provinces of Agusan del Sur, Bukidnon, Compostela Valley, Davao Oriental, Palawan and Surigao del Sur. The relief supplies distributed thus far were provided by Movement and non-Movement partners.

Specifically through this emergency appeal operation, as of 4 January 2013, PRC had distributed non-food items (NFI) to some 2,000 families. The items were dispatched from stocks pre-positioned in Manila. A complete non-food package under this operation comprises two blankets, two sleeping mats, one 20-litre jerry can and a hygiene kit. In Palawan, which is considered malaria-endemic, the package includes two mosquito nets.

Thus far, NFI packages for 9,400 families have been transferred from the main warehouse in Manila to the affected provinces. Dispatch of the remaining items – for 7,600 families – was particularly impacted as vessels were grounded at port, as a precautionary measure in view of tropical storms Wukong and Sonamu. The vessels have since been cleared and remaining supplies are scheduled to be all on the ground by 20 January 2013. Relief distributions under this IFRC-supported operation will specifically cover the provinces of Agusan Del Sur, Bukidnon, Compostela Valley, Palawan and Siquijor. Distributions are underway, and all the targeted 17,000 families are expected to be reached by end of February 2013.

Health

Outcome: The immediate health risks of 40,000 typhoon-affected families (200,000 persons) as well as teachers and students in 30 schools are met through disaster prevention and health promotion activities in communities within 16 months.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
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40,000 families, as well as teachers and students in 30 schools have improved knowledge in the prevention and home care of waterborne, water related and other infectious diseases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake rapid surveys to determine baseline and end-line levels of awareness on priority water-borne, water-related and other infectious diseases in communities impacted by the typhoon. • Produce and distribute information, education and communication (IEC) materials relevant for disease prevention and health promotion, and distribute to priority families in target communities and in 30 schools alongside awareness/education campaigns (<i>these include the 5 to be supported in rehabilitating/constructing water and sanitation facilities</i>). • Provide hygiene kits to 17,000 families (85,000 people) to reinforce safe hygiene practices (<i>see also non-food relief</i>). • Mobilize families, as well as teachers and students in 30 schools, for the dissemination of relevant disease prevention, health and hygiene messages and conduct activities to promote health³.
PRC capacity to plan and manage health components of the typhoon emergency response and recovery programme (including future emergencies) is enhanced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit and induct/train short-term health staff/workers and volunteers to manage and implement community health services. • Coordinate and collaborate with health authorities and humanitarian partners at different levels. • Conduct periodic field monitoring and reviews, as well as an evaluation of the health component of the flood response. • Towards the end of the operation, develop/update emergency health preparedness and response plan and mechanisms, as part of the overall PRC response. • Train selected staff at headquarters and chapters on emergency health response management.
Psychosocial wellbeing of affected communities and emergency responders promoted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide psychosocial support to affected community members and responders involved in the operation. • Monitor and report on activities.

Progress

PRC has been augmenting the provision of essential medical/health services in Davao Oriental, through the deployment of its advanced medical post in Baganga, and the provision of a rubbish hall to ensure continued operation of the district hospital in Cateel. A health post will be set up to cover the health needs of around 1,000 families in temporary shelters in New Bataan, Compostela Valley. Considering the extensive damage to health facilities in Compostela and New Bataan towns (Compostela Valley province) and in Baganga, Boston and Cateel (Davao Oriental), IFRC deployed its emergency health coordinator for Asia Pacific to support PRC in determining the current status, and gaps in the delivery of health services in the two worst-affected provinces; the rapid assessment recommended the deployment of mobile health teams in Davao Oriental and the immediate scaling-up of community health services, particularly on disease prevention, health promotion and psychosocial support. PRC medical services in Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental are supported by Spanish Red Cross and ICRC, with the latter having brought in a primary health care rapid deployment team to fill health service gaps in Baganga, Davao Oriental.

PRC is currently scaling up its disease prevention and health promotion activities in severely-affected communities in all provinces covered by this appeal. Health staff at headquarters have been deployed to oversee the start of said activities in Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental, together with community health volunteers (CHVs) from nearby chapters, such as Cagayan de Oro, Cotabato and Davao City. These experienced volunteers are currently training local CHVs who will be leading the conducting of disease prevention and health promotion with affected communities themselves. These activities will also continue alongside relief distributions, mainly linked to the provision of hygiene kits, to reinforce good health and hygiene practices. Plans for the start-up of community health services in other provinces covered by this appeal are being finalized.

Although this appeal will not directly support the further deployment of health teams (particularly in two worst affected provinces, which have been committed to by Spanish Red Cross and ICRC), the operation will contribute to the strengthening of PRC capacity to plan and manage health components of emergency response and recovery programmes in the future. This will be facilitated through periodic field visits by the emergency health coordinator for Asia Pacific.

³Such as clean-up and sanitation campaigns, community mobilization for nutrition promotion or immunization

Water and sanitation

Outcome: 5,000 families (25,000 persons) as well as students and staff in five schools have improved access to water or sanitation facilities as well as improved environmental sanitation in 16 months.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
5,000 families in communities have access to safe water and improved environmental sanitation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setup of temporary water storage points in communities and evacuation centres for distribution to affected communities. • Rehabilitate/construct water points (tube wells fitted with hand pumps) pending connection of potable water by the authorities. • Support clearing of debris, drainage de-clogging, and rehabilitation of damaged small-scale water and sanitation facilities in affected communities (through cash for work). • Transport collected debris to proper deposit sites in coordination with local authorities. • Monitor and report on activities.
4,000 families that receive typhoon-resilient shelter assistance also have improved access to sanitation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide appropriate latrine and septic tank construction materials to 4,000 families whose houses were destroyed. • Provide guidance to the targeted 4,000 families on construction of pour-flush latrines and septic tanks as integral components of transitional shelters (<i>see also typhoon-resilient shelter</i>). • Monitor construction of pour-flush latrines and septic tanks – as integral components of transitional shelters – where necessary ensuring that the construction takes into account the unique needs of people with disabilities.
Students and staff in five schools have improved access to water and sanitation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with the Department of Education (DepEd), principals and local authorities in identifying five schools that will be supported in rehabilitating/constructing water and sanitation facilities. • Coordinate with local authority engineers and principals of five identified schools on the design of appropriate water and sanitation facilities. • Rehabilitate/construct water and sanitation facilities in five schools that have been used as evacuation centres or have been severely affected by the typhoon. • Support the five schools in forming water and sanitation committees to spearhead proper maintenance of the facilities. • Mobilize teachers and students in the five schools, for the dissemination of relevant disease prevention, health and hygiene messages and conduct activities to promote health (<i>these form part of the 30 targeted water and sanitation section</i>).

Progress

Since the start of the response operation, PRC has provided safe drinking water to 24,000 people through trucking water from mobile water treatment plants. Water distribution is by large supported by other Movement partners outside this emergency appeal operation. However, provision of water to affected families who have sought safer shelter in 'tent cities' set up by PRC in Compostela Valley is being undertaken by Spanish Red Cross under this operation within the context of a joint ECHO-funded action.

Under this action, German and Spanish Red Cross teams are preparing to support PRC in mobilizing communities for clearing of debris in the coming days and will, using the cash-for-work modality. The modality will provide beneficiaries with an opportunity to earn money which they can use to cover basic needs. IFRC, German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross are working jointly in this regard.

Meanwhile, in preparation for activities relating to supporting improved access to water and sanitation facilities in schools, the Palawan chapter of PRC – supported by an IFRC field delegate – has identified one school that was severely impacted by Typhoon Bopha and could potentially be supported. A technical assessment by the IFRC water and sanitation engineer will be undertaken in February.

Shelter

Outcome: 19,000 affected families have safer shelter solutions through the provision of locally appropriate materials, tools and guidance on improved building techniques within 18 months.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<p>15,000 families whose houses were damaged by the typhoon have received shelter repair materials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form a shelter project team that will lead identification and orientation of beneficiaries, including creating awareness on typhoon-resilient construction techniques. • Undertake detailed sector-specific assessments for shelter to inform the selection of beneficiaries and prioritization by locality. • Conduct market research to establish prices of essential shelter materials, identify and map suppliers of shelter materials, and recommend potential suppliers/shops to beneficiaries. • Identify, verify and register affected families that will receive shelter repair materials and tools. • Mobilize targeted beneficiaries, provide them with orientation on the programme purpose and distribution process, and promote better building techniques. • Provide tarpaulins and/or shelter repair tools for up to 1,400 families. • Provide PHP 10,000 conditional cash grants or vouchers to 15,000 families for exchange with shelter repair kits. • Monitor and report on activities.
<p>4,000 families whose houses were destroyed as a result of the Typhoon Bopha have rebuilt transitional shelters applying typhoon-resilient techniques.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form a shelter project team that will lead identification and orientation of beneficiaries, including creating awareness on typhoon-resilient construction techniques. • Conduct market research to establish prices of essential shelter materials, identify and map suppliers of shelter materials, and recommend potential suppliers/shops to beneficiaries. • Undertake detailed sector-specific assessments for shelter to inform the selection of beneficiaries and prioritization by locality. • Identify, verify and register affected families who will receive shelter repair materials and tools. • Validate that each selected family owns the land or has permission to rebuild on the land proposed, and that the site is outside the area demarcated as 'no-build zone' by the authorities. • Conduct advocacy for access to appropriate land sites to resettle affected families living within areas demarcated as 'no-build zone' by the authorities. • Where relocation sites are available, advocate for the authorities to undertake basic site preparation, including site clearing, lot subdivision and demarcation, construction of roads, provision of piped water, and connection of electricity. • Conduct market research to establish prices of shelter materials, identify and map suppliers of shelter materials, send out requests for quotations/tender documents, and undertake procurement of materials in line with existing procedures. • Construct model houses in selected localities to demonstrate better building techniques and to provide beneficiaries with visual demonstration on how to construct their houses. • Provide appropriate transitional shelter materials and tools to 4,000 families whose houses were destroyed for them to reconstruct using better building techniques with the help of their fellow community members. • Monitor construction works being undertaken by beneficiary families with the help of their fellow community members, and provide relevant technical assistance and guidance. • Undertake a house occupancy survey and report on activities.

Progress

Shelter is a top priority because many affected households have requested assistance to repair or rebuild their homes. During the reporting period, PRC delivered emergency shelter solutions such as tents and tarpaulins to more than 20,000 families. The assistance has been delivered with the support of other Movement partners.

Under this IFRC-supported operation, tarpaulins for 1,000 families have been dispatched to Compostela Valley and for 400 families, to Bukidnon. The tarpaulins will be provided to families in dire need of emergency shelter repairs, pending provision of shelter repair kits. As well as relief distributions, Red Cross staff and volunteers support the process of identifying households that will potentially be assisted with shelter repair kits. This process has particularly advanced in Palawan and is set to start during the third week of January in Agusan Del Sur, Bukidnon and Siquijor. Other preparatory work initiated in parallel is surveying the local markets to identify suppliers with the capacity to provide shelter material.

Additionally, over the coming week, IFRC will support PRC – upon a request from the national society – in reorganizing ‘tent cities’ that the national society has set up in Compostela Valley.

Livelihoods

Outcome: Coping mechanisms of 5,000 affected families are improved in 18 months through voucher or cash-based solutions for restoring livelihoods.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
5,000 affected families have restored their livelihoods, strengthening their self-reliance through the provision of vouchers or cash grants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a cash-based programming (CBP) working group – comprising PRC staff and IFRC delegates – to provide overall guidance for the project.• Undertake detailed assessments to identify specific communities in most need of early recovery assistance.• Establish chapter cash-based programming (CBP) teams – comprising Red Cross staff and volunteers – in provinces/cities where livelihoods assistance is most needed.• Organize orientation sessions and support identified communities in forming barangay programming committees (BPC) – comprising community members, community leaders, members of the civil society and religious groups, among others – that will lead the beneficiary selection process.• Undertake social mapping, participatory consultations and create a short-list of the most vulnerable households in need of livelihoods assistance.• Organize participatory community sessions to select - from the short-list - the most vulnerable households that will receive livelihoods assistance in accordance with PRC’s beneficiary selection criteria.• Organize beneficiary orientation sessions for households that are selected to receive livelihoods assistance and guide them on the conditions they need to fulfil in order to receive the grants.• Provide selected 5,000 households with relevant forms to apply for livelihoods assistance and guide them in preparing proposals outlining their preferred solutions to a maximum of PHP 10,000 per family.• Identify and engage a suitable cash remittance service provider with a network in affected areas and capacity to disburse livelihoods grants to selected families.• Disburse PHP 10,000 grants – in two instalments – to 5,000 households through the cash remittance service provider engaged or provide PHP 10,000 vouchers.• Monitor and report on the disbursement and utilization of the vouchers/grants and the progress of livelihood activities for the 5,000 households supported.

Progress

No activity undertaken under this sector thus far. Detailed assessments will be undertaken in affected provinces in the coming weeks to gain a better understanding of the longer-term livelihoods needs on the ground. In the meantime, water and sanitation activities planned for the coming days using the cash-for-work modality will provide beneficiaries with an opportunity to earn money with which they can use to cover basic needs. This will ensure that those who relied on daily labour for livelihoods, prior to the typhoon, will have some immediate income.

National society preparedness for response

Outcome: The disaster preparedness and response capacity of PRC national headquarters and selected chapters in affected areas strengthened within 18 months.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
PRC national headquarters and chapters in operational areas have improved their disaster response capacities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Form, train and equip five search-and-rescue teams.• Undertake rehabilitation and improvement works on one of PRC's main regional warehouses, for de-centralized pre-positioning of stocks.• Facilitate the improvement and provision of essential office equipment for three PRC chapter offices.• Provide a vehicle for one chapter to assist in response and monitoring.• Provide two Rubb halls to PRC national headquarters.• Provide essential training and workshops in relevant disaster preparedness and response sectors.

Progress

In order to ensure that PRC's national headquarters and respective chapters have adequate capacity to implement activities under this operation, IFRC has committed to supporting the salaries of some of the National Society's operational staff. At the request of the national society, IFRC delegates and technical staff have scheduled basic orientation sessions for PRC staff and volunteers in Agusan del Sur, Bukidnon, Palawan and Siquijor regarding undertaking relief and early recovery interventions.

Logistics

To provide better support to this operation, the IFRC in-country logistics team – which currently comprises one delegate and two officers– will be strengthened in the coming weeks. Already the position of logistics delegate, with strong national society capacity building skills, has been opened on IFRC's JobNet. The process of recruiting an additional logistics officer for Manila and a field logistics officer has also started.

The expanded logistics team will support PRC in the local procurement of goods. The support includes coordinating the international mobilization of items via the zone logistics unit (ZLU) in Kuala Lumpur, identifying, negotiating and liaising with suppliers, and tracking the movement of goods from suppliers or Red Cross warehouses to individual distribution points.

Relief distributions are drawing largely from pre-positioned stocks, and the procurement process relating to NFI to replenish those dispatched/being dispatched will be initiated in late January. Blankets, sleeping mats and jerry cans will be procured locally; as such donors who wish to cover these items are requested to give earmarked cash instead of in-kind donations. Donors who wish to cover hygiene kits, tarpaulins, and kitchen sets should note that the items will be procured ex-stock from the ZLU warehouse in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. All donors are requested to [coordinate with ZLU](#) regarding outstanding needs.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The PRC and IFRC communication teams continue to work closely to highlight the needs of the affected communities and Red Cross Red Crescent response, ensuring a steady flow of timely and accurate information targeted at key stakeholders including the media, national societies, and prospective donors. During the reporting period, the communications team continued to provide updated factsheets with talking points for National Society communicators and spokespeople.

The IFRC communication officer visited the worst-affected areas in Compostela Valley, and gathered beneficiary profiles and news stories as well as audio-video materials. A web story has since been posted on the IFRC website: [“IFRC launches emergency appeal for support following massive storm damage in the Philippines”](#) while a B-roll highlighting the damage caused by the typhoon and the Red Cross response has been shared with media and national society communicators via the [IFRC Video Newsroom](#).

In the meantime, starting 4 January, the IFRC regional communications manager for Southeast Asia visited the most affected villages in Compostela Valley. New materials, including stories, photos and videos will be shared with the media and national society communicators, including through the [IFRC public website](#).

In the field, an IFRC relief and recovery delegate wrote a [blog article/field diary entry](#) posted on IFRC online communication channels as well as other online media such as Alertnet. Communications support to the operations will be continue to be provided by the IFRC Southeast Asia regional office in Bangkok and the Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur. Previous articles can be found on the Philippine field operations page of [IFRC public website](#) and [IFRC Flickr stream](#). Regular updates and stories are also posted on [PRC's website](#).

Contact information

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

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Please send all pledges for 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.



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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