

Information bulletin

Philippines: Earthquakes

Glide n° EQ-2019-000036-PHL	Date of issue: 25 April 2019
Date of disaster: 22 April 2019	Point of contact (name and title): Patrick Elliott, Operations Manager
Operation start date: N/A	Expected timeframe: N/A
Host National Society: Philippine Red Cross	
Number of people affected: 15,273	Number of people to be assisted: N/A
N° of National Societies currently involved in the operation: N/A	
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation: Government of 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 Monday 22 April at 17:11 local time, the National Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLKS) reported¹ a **6.1 magnitude, 10km deep, earthquake, with its epicentre 18km NE of Castillejos, Zambales, Central Luzon, Region 3**. The epicentre was a relatively mountainous area close to Mount Pinatubo volcano. Central Luzon was the hardest-hit region and Pampanga the hardest-hit province. Pampanga has been placed under a state of calamity. Based on preliminary intensity reports, the strongest ground shaking was felt at PHIVOLCS Earthquake Intensity Scale VI (Very Strong) in parts of Pampanga and Intensity V (Strong) was felt in parts as far away as Metro Manila (174km) causing many businesses, schools and residential properties to be evacuated.



Location of earthquakes on 22 and 23 April.

As of 25 April, the National Disaster Risk Reduction Council (NDRRMC) reported² the following impact:

- There were **18 dead, 282 injured, and seven missing**. Most of the dead and injured are from a collapsed supermarket in the Municipality of Porac, Pampanga. Search and rescue operations are still ongoing for the persons missing in the collapsed supermarket.
- Affected families: Total **3,205 families** i.e. **14,901 individuals** were affected in **13 municipalities** (nine cities in Pampanga, one in Zambales and three in Bataan).
- Damaged houses: Total 1,230 houses were damaged (156 totally damaged and 1,074 partially damaged) in Bataan and Pampanga.
- Damaged public buildings: Total 138 buildings were damaged and most of them were schools.
- Earthquake induced landslide was reported in Mt. Bimmukel, Sitio Lomibao Brgy, Zambales and 120 families were evacuated and provided relief.
- Infrastructure: Flights to and from Clark airport were temporarily cancelled as part of the terminal building ceiling. Railway operations were temporarily halted on Monday – including the LRT in Metro Manila.

¹ <https://www.phivolcs.dost.gov.ph/index.php/earthquake/earthquake-information3>

² http://ndrrmc.gov.ph/attachments/article/3754/Update_Sitrep_no_6_re_Magnitude_6_1_Earthquake_in_Castillejos_Zambales_issued_on_25_April_2019_6PM.pdf

- Lifelines: Power outages hit several provinces, including Pangasinan, Pampanga, La Union, and Bataan. Power restoration is targeted within the week.
- Estimated cost of earthquake damage is PHP 505,920,000.

The following day, Tuesday 23 April at 13:37 local time the PHIVOLKS reported³ a **6.5 magnitude, 61km deep, earthquake with its epicentre 10km NW of San Julian, Eastern Samar, Region 8**. The epicentre was in a relatively sparsely populated mountainous area. Based on preliminary intensity reports, the strongest ground shaking was felt at Intensity Scale VI (Very Strong) in San Julian in Eastern Samar and Intensity V (Strong) in Tacloban City, Palo and Pastrana in Leyte; Catbalogan City in Samar.

As of 25 April, the NDRRMC reported⁴ the following impact:

- There were **40 injured** and no dead and no missing.
- Affected families: Total **93 families** i.e. **372 individuals** were affected in 18 communities from **seven municipalities** (two cities in Eastern Samar and five in Western Samar).
- Damaged houses: Total 92 houses were damaged (four totally damaged and 88 partially damaged) in Eastern Samar and Western Samar.
- Damaged public buildings: It is reported that several health, education and commercial structure are damaged. A medical centre was partially damaged in Tacloban.
- Infrastructure: three roads and three bridges were affected in Eastern Samar.
- Lifelines: Power outages hit on in Visayas, Borongan and Eastern Samar including Northern Samar.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Action

PRC continues providing humanitarian assistance in the quake affected areas. The PRC operations centre continues to collect information from the chapters and directly from Red Cross 143 volunteers in the areas. PRC continues to coordinate closely with the National and Regional NDRRMC's and the Local Government Units.

Zambales Earthquake - PRC Deployments and Assistance Provided

- PRC mobilised two ERUs; Search and Rescue teams deployed to the collapsed Supermarket in Porac, Pampanga; rescue vehicle; closed van; tower light; generator; body bags; nine trained staff and volunteers.
- PRC mobilised other assets:
 - Ambulances: nine (Zambales-2, Makati-1, NHQ-2, Manila-1, Olongapo-2, Pampanga-1)
 - Rescue Vehicle: two (NHQ-1, SBMA-1)
 - Service Vehicle: two (Pampanga-1, NHQ-1)
 - Closed Van: one (NHQ)
 - 29 trained staff and volunteers
- PRC have deployed two assessment team and conducted psychosocial support to the employees of Chuzon Supermarket at Babo, Pangulo evacuation centre in Pampanga and to 12 patients admitted at the JBL Memorial Regional Hospital.
- PRC are preparing to distribute hygiene kits and water distribution to 55 families in Babo, Pangulo evacuation centre.
- In Zambales, PRC provided hot meals to 450 individuals at the Aeta Market Evacuation Centre and conducted psychosocial support to bereaved families.



PRC trained volunteers supporting the search and rescue operations in Porac, Pampanga (Photo: PRC).



PRC trained volunteers providing psychosocial support to patients in JBL Memorial Regional Hospital (Photo: PRC).

³ <https://www.phivolcs.dost.gov.ph/index.php/earthquake/earthquake-information3>

⁴ http://ndrrmc.gov.ph/attachments/article/3758/Update_Sitrep_No_6_re_Magnitude_6_5_Earthquake_in_San_Julian_Eastern_Samar_as_of_6AM_26_April_2019.pdf

Eastern Samar Earthquake - PRC Deployments and Assistance Provided

- Northern Samar Chapter
 - Mobilized trained 143 Volunteers including First Aid Volunteers to catered for individuals with minor wounds.
 - Deployed assessment team in Catarman.
 - Information dissemination on negative tsunami alert.
- Leyte Chapter
 - Deployed one ambulance team for roving with four manpower.
 - Mobilized trained 143 Volunteers including First Aid Volunteers to catered for individuals with minor wounds.
 - One ambulance and two services vehicles were mobilized.
 - Preparing for food distribution and providing PSP services.
- Eastern Samar Chapter
 - Deployed one roving team with three manpower.
- Albay Chapter
 - Deployed one roving team for four manpower.



PRC trained volunteers providing first aid in Samar (**Photo: PRC**).

PRC has issued updates on the situation and chapter's relief activities. PRC maintains close coordination with in-country Movement partners and continues to provide updates. The IFRC Philippine country office is supporting PRC in disseminating updates to the Asia Pacific regional office and Movement partners.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries):

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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**.