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Information bulletin

Philippines: Typhoon Hagupit

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Philippine Red Cross has indicated that it will request funding or other assistance from its partners once it finalizes its response plan in the coming days.



At Gogon Central High School in Legazpi City, the Philippine Red Cross' Albay chapter volunteers and staff set up water points and organized food and relief items for distribution to affected families. (Photo: PRC)

The situation

Typhoon Hagupit (locally known as Ruby) made its first land fall on Saturday evening, 6 December 2014 in Dolores municipality, Eastern Samar province with maximum sustained winds up to 160 kph and gusts up to 195 kph. This was followed by several more landfalls across the area south of Luzon, including Masbate, Calapan City in Oriental Mindoro, Marinduque, and Batangas. As of 10 December 2014, this slow-moving typhoon was downgraded to a tropical storm, with sustaining maximum winds of 65 kph and gusts of up to 80 kph, with the entire system moving west at 20kph. According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Center (NDRRMC), Hagupit should traverse Pagasa Island in Palawan, and exit the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) on Thursday evening, 11 December 2014. – [click here to see map](#) -

Hagupit is still expected to cause rough sea conditions over the seaboard of Northern and Central Luzon, threatening fishing boats and small sea craft. Estimated rainfall between 5 to 15 mm per hour is expected within 200 km diameter of the storm.

Reports from the NDRRMC on 10 December 2014 indicate that 2.4 million people (approximately 533,000 families) have been affected in Central Luzon, Calabarzon, Mimaropa, Bicol, Visayas, CARAGA, and the National Capital Region (NCR). The NDRRMC also reports 11 deaths, but these numbers are expected to rise as further reports come in, especially from the Eastern Samar area.

Intensive evacuation measures taken by authorities prior to the landfall moved more than one million people out of the storm's path and into evacuation centres. As of 9 December 2014, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) reports that 370,000 families (approximately 1.65 million people) are still being provided with services in 5,193 evacuation centres. This number is expected to reduce quickly as people return to their place of origin to check the damage to their possessions, houses and land, and start the clean-up process.

NDRRMC figures record damage to 910 houses, half of which have been destroyed in Romblon, Sorsogon, Masbate, Albay, Camarines Sur, Cebu and Surigao del Norte. This number does not include Samar Island and is, therefore, expected to rise with damages in Eastern Samar and Samar provinces. PRC has reported from its initial rapid assessments that about 9,564 houses were totally destroyed and 13,416 partially destroyed in Eastern and Western Samar. While destruction may not be as severe as anticipated, reports indicate that houses have been damaged in less-populated areas along the coast, which were in the direct path of the typhoon. These houses are likely to have been made with light materials such as bamboo, plywood, or nipa¹. In other areas, power outages and damage to telecommunication lines and infrastructure occurred, but many of this has either been restored or adapted for use for the time being.

The slow progress of Hagupit keeps the threat of floods and landslides hovering over the region, especially in the mountainous and low-lying areas. To date, 17 areas in Quezon province, Laguna, Marinduque and Biñan have experienced flooding, some of which have subsided. The flooding has also impacted crops and fisheries. Landslides in Oriental Mindoro and Batangas, and rockslides in Marinduque, have also been reported. No casualties from these incidents have been reported as of yet.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Philippine Red Cross is working closely with the local authorities and other humanitarian partners, including the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement to closely monitor the situation as it progresses. Where there is access, the PRC has mobilized teams to affected areas to carry out relief distributions as well as to conduct assessments. Red Cross teams have also undertaken preliminary surveys in areas where activities relating to Typhoon Haiyan recovery programmes were underway – including Guiuan and Tacloban City – and observed that there has been no major damage in those areas.

Philippine Red Cross chapters have also mobilized assistance to affected areas, with the primary focus on people currently in evacuation centres. Up to 580 PRC volunteers and 123 staff have been mobilized from various chapters including the national headquarters and Metro Manila chapters. Vehicles deployed include two ambulances, two hot-meal vehicles, two water tankers, one fuel tanker and four all-terrain vehicles.

¹ A palm tree with creeping roots

As of early morning, 10 December 2014, the main distributions and relief services are as follows :

Areas		Families			Individuals		
Chapters	Provinces	Food rations	Hygiene kits	Jerry cans	Hot meals	Psycho social support	Hygiene promotion
Southern Luzon/Bicol	13	1,728		578	5,534	645	265
National Capital Region	1	120			12,062	69	1,544
Rizal	1				555		
Visayas Region	15	250	250	10	6,755	313	
Mindanao	2					55	
Total	32	2,098	250	588	24,906	1,082	1,809

PRC has set up 84 welfare desks in community areas throughout affected areas and distributed sleeping mats and bottles of water to affected families in the National Capital Region.

Other relief goods deployed to affected areas for distribution are 20,000 sets of relief items (including sleeping kits, jerry cans and hygiene kits), 1,000 standard food packs, 10,000 ready-to-eat meals, and 2,500 cartons of bottled water.

Considering that effects of Typhoon Hagupit extend to areas affected by Typhoon Haiyan in November 2013, the IFRC has mobilized relief items for 10,000 families for immediate distribution by PRC within the Haiyan operation framework. Relief interventions in areas that were affected by Typhoon Haiyan and have now borne secondary effects by Typhoon Hagupit will be incorporated under the Haiyan Plan of Action

The PRC national headquarters has deployed teams to Mindoro, Marinduque and Romblon to further assess the needs in these areas, as well as provide technical support to chapter disaster operations in Sorsogon and Romblon. A composite team to carry out assessments, to perform rescue operations and provide medical services, has been deployed to Samar Island, which appears to have borne the brunt of Hagupit at this time.

PRC continues to maintain close coordination with disaster authorities and participates in meetings of disaster risk reduction and management councils at national, provincial and municipal levels. PRC is also holding regular coordination meetings with its International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners with presence in the country.

The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement is supporting PRC in its response to people affected by Typhoon Hagupit. An agreement on the different roles and responsibilities, and the coordination of these, has been made through a joint statement. PRC continues to take the lead in the response, while IFRC supports through assessments, relief and recovery assistance, and organizational development in areas other than those covered by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). IFRC will also coordinate international communication directly related to Hagupit and the possible mobilization of its international and regional response mechanisms. In areas where ICRC takes the lead, IFRC support will be complementary to their interventions. Partner National Societies can work either directly with PRC or through IFRC and ICRC. All support is made through the Movement Coordination mechanism for Typhoon Hagupit.

Contact information

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

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[Click here](#)

1. [Map of Typhoon Hagupit's track](#)
2. [Return to the title page](#)

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.

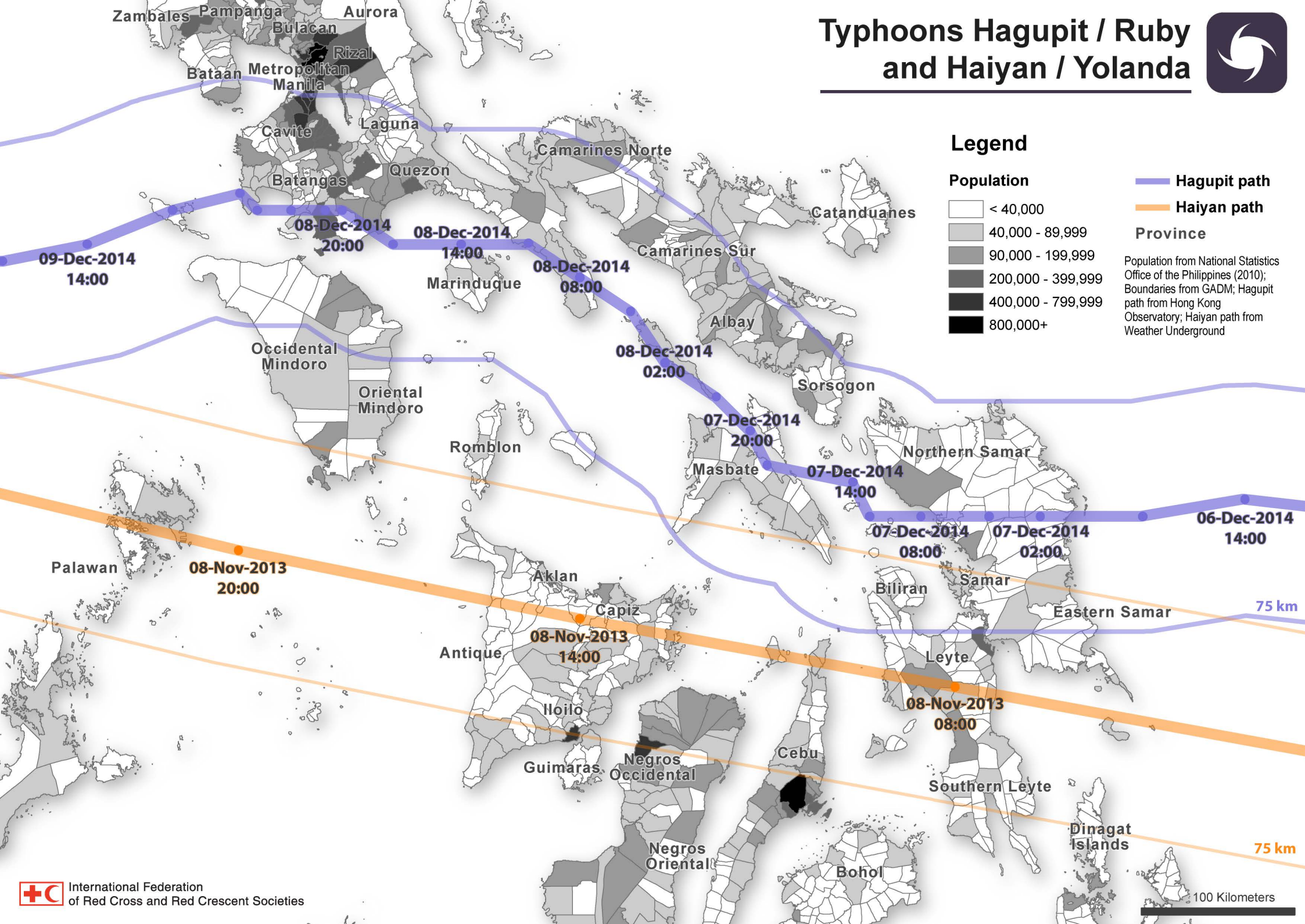
The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.



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

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.

Typhoons Hagupit / Ruby and Haiyan / Yolanda



Legend

Population

- < 40,000
- 40,000 - 89,999
- 90,000 - 199,999
- 200,000 - 399,999
- 400,000 - 799,999
- 800,000+

Hagupit path

Haiyan path

Province

Population from National Statistics Office of the Philippines (2010); Boundaries from GADM; Hagupit path from Hong Kong Observatory; Haiyan path from Weather Underground