

Information Bulletin

Philippines: Typhoon Rammasun

Information Bulletin n° 4 GLIDE n° TC-2014-00092-PHL 23 July 2014

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Philippine Red Cross continues to respond to needs of families affected by Typhoon Rammasun by providing relief items and delivering disease prevention messages. Assessments are ongoing in the hardest hit areas.

Summary

A week after Typhoon Rammasun (locally known as Glenda) lashed the island of Luzon, the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) continues to provide relief and deliver disease prevention messages to affected families. As the response continues, a new weather system, Typhoon Matmo (locally known as Henry), has exacerbated the southwest monsoon bringing rains in areas that were already affected by Rammasun.

Latest figures from the national disaster agency, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), as of 23 July, report that 1.6 million people were affected by Typhoon Rammasun, with 97 killed and 460 injured. According to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), although many families have since returned to their homes, some 5,700 families remain in 110 evacuation centres as Rammasun left significant damage on shelter, destroying 29,000 houses and damaging 90,000 others.



Philippine Red Cross (PRC) Quezon-Lucena chapter sorts relief packages for distribution to affected families. One week after Rammasun lashed the island of Luzon, PRC has since distributed food packages to 3,700 families.
Photo: Philippine Red Cross

PRC has been active since Typhoon Rammasun was sighted. Emergency teams were put on standby and immediately dispatched when the situation warranted. To date, the National Society has mobilized 1,400 staff and volunteers to provide relief assistance, disease prevention education, psychosocial support, and distribute water, assisting at least 5,400 families. Equipped with some 20 vehicles, PRC was able to rescue and transport people to safety in the National Capital Region and in some areas in Visayas that were previously affected by Typhoon Haiyan.

As soon as access to the most affected areas was allowed, PRC deployed two teams in Quezon Province – which was most affected by Typhoon Rammasun – and Bicol region to conduct assessments that will help to determine who needs what and where. The assessments are still ongoing, and will define whether PRC will scale up its response in aid of those affected by Typhoon Rammasun. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) deployed one technical delegate to support the ongoing

assessments in Laguna and Batangas provinces which were badly hit as well. Initial results were shared with the National Society and will consolidate with other areas currently being assessed.

Although the southwest monsoon fuelled by Typhoon Matmo has brought rains in some of the areas that were affected by Typhoon Rammasun, the effects are not expected to be significant.

The situation

Impact from the southwest monsoon fuelled by Typhoon Matmo is expected to be minimal. Meanwhile, another weather disturbance – the third in a span of one week – with the potential of becoming a tropical storm has been spotted east of Visayas. The national weather agency, Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) has indicated that the disturbance will be given the local name *Inday* when it enters the Philippine area of responsibility.

Typhoon Rammasun left the Philippines on 17 July 2014 through the sea west of Philippines. A week after it traversed Luzon Island from the east coast to the west with heavy rains and howling winds, the picture of the impact remains evident. In the latest report of NDRRMC, Typhoon Rammasun has affected 1.6 million people in Ilocos Region, Central Luzon, Southern Luzon, Bicol Region, Western Visayas and Eastern Visayas. It also displaced half a million people where currently, 5,700 families are still staying in 108 evacuation centres, according to the DSWD.

The strongest typhoon to hit Philippines this year, Rammasun killed 97 people and injured 460 others, while 6 persons are still missing. With its strength, it destroyed 29,000 houses and damaged 90,000 others. It has uprooted trees and toppled electric posts, which resulted to interruption of power lines in the affected regions. According to the Manila Electric Company (MERALCO), power has since been restored in most of the areas, while some parts of Batangas, Cavite, Laguna, Rizal and Quezon Province still have no electricity as of 23 July. Damages to agriculture, infrastructure and school facilities were estimated at PHP7.5 billion (approx. CHF 156 million).

Table 1: Summary of the Typhoon Rammasun's impact (as of 23 July)

No. of people killed	97
No. of people injured	460
No. of people missing	6
No. of houses destroyed	28,795
No. of houses damaged	89,486
No. of evacuation centres activated	108
No. of families in evacuation centres	5,728

(Sources: [NDRRMC](#) and [DSWD's Twitter page](#))

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Since the day Typhoon Rammasun was sighted, PRC had been on high alert on any effects of the disaster. Red Cross Action Teams and Water Search and Rescue teams were put on stand by and were immediately deployed soon after Rammasun passed. Equipped with 17 emergency vehicles, 1,353 staff and volunteers were mobilized to provide emergency assistance. One of the initial response included rescuing and transporting at least 100 people to safety in Central Luzon, National Capital Region and Southern Luzon with first aid applied to the injured. As the affected families flocked into evacuation centres, PRC also set up welfare desks providing hot meals and psychosocial support to 21,189 people. The National Society has also been distributing food packages to 3,700 people and non-food relief items (including blankets, jerry cans and sleeping mats) to more than 1,100 families.

As Rammasun disrupted power lines and water systems, health and sanitation became concerns of the affected population. In this regard, the National Society has also distributed hygiene kits¹ alongside hygiene promotion to more than 4,000 families.

¹¹ A standard PRC hygiene kit contains five toothbrushes, a tube toothpaste, a bottle of shampoo, five pieces of bathing soap, five plastic combs, a pack cotton buds (with 200 pieces), a pack of sanitary napkins (with 10 pieces), a nail cutter/clipper, a bar of washing soap, two packs of disposable razors, two rolls of toilet paper and five face towels.

Table 2: Summary of assistance provided by PRC

Region	Province	Food packages (no. of people)	Non-food packages (no. of families)	Hygiene kits + promotion (no. of families)
Central Luzon	Bulacan	n/a	n/a	169
	Zambales	85	n/a	n/a
Southern Luzon	Batangas	200	n/a	135
	Cavite	190	n/a	n/a
	Laguna	742	n/a	n/a
	Marinduque	60	n/a	n/a
	Rizal	425	n/a	n/a
Bicol Region	Albay	n/a	632	3,350
	Camarines Sur	1,154	490	366
	Sorsogon	19	n/a	n/a
Eastern Visayas	Leyte	37	n/a	n/a
	Northern Samar	788	n/a	n/a
	Total	3,700	1,122	4,020

With Albay and Quezon Province being the hardest hit areas and Northern Samar that was previously affected by Typhoon Haiyan, PRC also deployed water bladders to provide safe, drinking water to the affected families. As of 23 July, some 5,400 families have been assisted with 80,300 litres of water.

As soon as access to the affected areas was permitted, PRC deployed assessment teams to further examine who needs what and where in these areas. The IFRC supported assessments of the National Society by deploying one delegate to Laguna and Batangas. Initial results show that Rammasun left extensive damage on these areas. These results will be consolidated while awaiting assessment reports from the teams deployed in Quezon Province and Bicol Region (Albay, Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte and Sorsogon).



PRC assessment team in Rapu-rapu, Albay surveys one of the damaged houses.
Photo: Marissa Santos/PRC

The ongoing assessments will determine the need for PRC national headquarters to scale up response, while IFRC will be available to provide further support to the National Society.

Contact information

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

- **Philippine Red Cross:**
 - Gwendolyn Pang, secretary-general; office: +63 2 525 5654; fax: +63 2 527 0857; email: gwendolyn.pang@redcross.org.ph
- **IFRC Philippines country office, Manila:**
 - Marcel Fortier, head of delegation; phone: +63 2 928 559 7071; email: marcel.fortier@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Southeast Asia regional office, Bangkok:**
 - Anne Leclerc, head of regional office; phone: +662 661 8201; email: anne.leclerc@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Asia Pacific zone office, Kuala Lumpur:**
 - Naoki Kokawa, interim head of operations; phone: +60 3 9207 5700; email: naoki.kokawa@ifrc.org
 - Necephor Mghendi, operations coordinator; phone: +6012 224 6796, email: necephor.mghendi@ifrc.org
 - Peter Ophoff, head of planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER); phone: +60 3 9207 5775; email: peter.ophoff@ifrc.org



Click here

1. 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.

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives, changing minds.



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.
-