

OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

THE PHILIPPINES: TYPHOONS

13 June 2005

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

In Brief

Appeal No. 26/04; Operations Update no. 6; Period covered: 6 May – 13 June 2005; Appeal coverage (received/pledged/indicated): 81.1%; ([click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List, also available on the website](#)).

Appeal history:

- Preliminary appeal launched on 2 December 2004 for CHF 2,011,000 (USD 1,749,036 or EUR 1,316,738) for three months for 250,000 beneficiaries.
- Appeal revised on 15 December 2004 for CHF 4,193,878 (USD 3,634,146 or EUR 2,731,487) for six months for 60,000 families (some 300,000 beneficiaries).
- This operations update extends the appeal timeframe till the end of August 2005.
- Final report is due in September 2005.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 150,000.

Outstanding needs : CHF 790,877 (USD 634,886 or EUR 512,226)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Southeast Asia Annual Appeal 01.66/2004 and 05AA057

Operational Summary:

The Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) has completed the procurement of shelter materials and food items, and have begun distributing them to the targeted communities. Both relief distributions and health activities made significant progress. All non-food distributions have been completed. New emergency health kits, supplementary medical supplies and equipment were provided to the selected health facilities along with health services and education activities. The rehabilitation work of the identified health facilities for rehabilitation is completed. The official handing over of the facilities took place on 13 June 2005. The PNRC organized further disaster response teams training to strengthen its capacity to respond to future disaster. A template for disaster assessment has been completed.



Representatives of Philippine National Red Cross, the Federation and the Spanish Red Cross handed over village health centres in Quezon province on 13 June to the local authorities. With combined efforts, these centres - damaged by landslides and flashfloods caused by typhoons late last year - were rehabilitated and re-equipped, revitalizing health and care services to the communities.

Due to the enormous logistical requirements for the distribution of remaining food items in 13 provinces and trucking of several tonnes of shelter materials from PNRC central warehouse to distribution points,

the national society will not be able to complete the operation before the end of June 2005. Therefore, the operational timeframe is extended until 31 August to allow PNRC to wind up field activities, consolidate project documents and financial reports from the chapters and submit the final report.

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Background

Since mid-November 2004, floods and landslides provoked by a series of storms, including Typhoons Muifa and Namadol and two tropical depressions, have killed 1,062¹ people, injured 1,161 and affected more than 3 million, mostly on the northern island of Luzon. Some 550 people are still reported missing. Over 188,000 houses were completely or partially damaged. The combined impact has caused significant loss of life and damage to the agricultural economy, severe disruption to livelihood and infrastructure in the country.

The PNRC has been in the forefront of response activities including distributions of food and household items, temporary shelter and health interventions. The Federation immediately released CHF 150,000 from DREF to support the relief operations of the PNRC and launched a preliminary appeal on 2 December 2004. Building on identified priority needs and the capacity of the national society, a revised appeal was launched on 15 December 2004, jointly with the UN Flash Appeal, to support PNRC relief activities in the worst hit areas where humanitarian aid to date has been inadequate and affected households face an extended recovery period.

Operational developments

Nearly six months after the devastation of the floods and landslides, there are areas still without electricity, and thousands of displaced families are still staying in temporary relocation centres.

Since the launch of non-food distributions on 3 March 2005, some 25,000 affected families have already received the non-food items. PNRC completed distribution of non-food items by mid-May. The procurement of food items and sardines has been completed and these have been sent to all the chapters for distribution. The procured rice was inspected by the contracted inspection company at various National Food Authority (NFA) warehouses in the respective provinces. Collection and distribution of rice began in the middle of May. In addition, all housing materials have been procured and distribution will start soon for those families who have lost their homes. These materials are being sent to the various PNRC chapters.

The health programme made significant progress during the reporting period. On 16 March 2005, PNRC started the allocation of new emergency health kits and supplementary medical supplies and equipment to the selected *barangays* (village) and district health facilities in Quezon, Aurora and Gabaldon. Distributions are ongoing. The field validation report identified the main health centre in General Nakar and 11 *barangay* health stations in General Nakar, Real and Infanta for rehabilitation. Procurement and construction work began in April and completed in the first week of June. The facilities were officially handed over to the respective mayors and health authorities on 13 June 2005. Health education activities have also started in March in Camarines Sur and Quirino.

¹ These figures are based on the government report of 19 December 2004 on recovery and rehabilitation operations. Casualty figures from different sources remain inconsistent. No further update has been released.

A total of 62 *barangays* were covered, nearly 1,000 patients were attended to and some 670 families benefited from health education sessions. Education materials on common diseases such as dengue, diarrhoea, cholera and malaria were distributed. Also in March, training was given to the community volunteers in General Nakar who will serve as core disseminators on common public health emergencies. In the first week of March, PNRC and the government's sanitary engineers jointly undertook water testing in Real. The results indicated the need for chlorination and boiling of water for drinking. In the long term, however, the water system structure needs to be re-evaluated for repair, improvement and protection. Local authorities have been informed of the situation.

With the relief distributions now progressing well, the PNRC embarked into the capacity building component of the appeal, including the preparation of disaster response team (DRT) training in various regions of the country and also the purchase of equipment. Six DRT training courses, including one to draw up the disaster assessment template, have been successfully concluded.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action – objectives, progress, impact

Emergency relief (food and non-food)

Objective 1: 50,000 affected families (approximately 250,000 people) receive basic food items and 25,000 families (approximately 125,000 people) receive non-food items to help recover their losses arising from the damage caused by the severe weather disturbances.

Progress/Achievements

Food

PNRC completed the procurement of rice, noodles and sardines. Sardines and noodles have been delivered to chapter warehouses from the PNRC central warehouse in Mandaluyong City. The PNRC national headquarters mobilized all its trucks, including two ten-wheeler heavy vehicles, two six-wheeler heavy vehicles and two mini-vans, to cope with the logistics needs. Two mini-vans from Quezon and Nueva Vizcaya chapters supported the transport efforts. The volume of food items delivered to 13 chapters covered by the project included 24,306 cartons of noodles and 10,501 cartons of sardines. These items were repacked by chapter volunteers to provide 21 tins of sardines and 35 packs of noodles to each family for a total of 50,000 beneficiaries.

On 15 April 2005, the PNRC concluded a contract of agreement with the NFA to supply 50,013 sacks of rice. The national society facilitated the procurement of 21-kilogram sacks bearing PNRC and Federation logos. The bags were distributed to local NFA warehouses in the chapters covered by the project. The warehouses completed the packing required by the chapters and SGS Philippines was hired to do the inspection of the quality and quantity of rice. Inspection was completed in the second week of May and the chapters started to distribute the food to beneficiaries. As of the second week of June, a total of 22,576 families had already received the food parcels.

Food distributions as of 10 June

Chapter	Target No. of Families for food	No. of Families served	% Accomplished
Catanduanes	2,000	2,000	100%
Camarines Sur	6,000	2,411	40%
Nueva Ecija	6,000	1,400	23%
Bulacan	3,000	1,120	37%
Isabela	3,000	549	18%
Quirino	5,000	4,349	87%
Nueva Vizcaya	5,000	2,321	46%
Aurora	5,000	1,000	20%
Quezon-Lucena	4,000	3,348	84%
Cagayan	1,000	792	79%
Kalinga	2,000	1,447	72%
Mindoro Oriental	4,000	0	0%
Camarines Norte	4,000	1,839	46%
Total	50,000	22,576	45.2%

Non-food

A total of 25,000 families have already received the non-food items. All non-food distributions are now completed. During the distributions, information materials on family preparedness for disasters and disease prevention were also provided.

All the chapters were provided visibility materials such as streamers and volunteer identity cards. They were also provided award sheets to record distributions of food, non-food and shelter materials to the beneficiaries.

Shelter

Objective: 2,500 affected families (approximately 12,500 people) are able to return home through the provision of semi-permanent shelter kits.

Progress/Achievements

All the items for shelter materials have been delivered to the PNRC central warehouse. The volume of materials consists of 30,000 galvanized iron sheets, 25,000 flex boards, 5,000 kilograms of umbrella nails and 2,500 hammers, saws and measuring tapes. These items have been delivered to Aurora and Mindoro Oriental chapter. A schedule for delivery to other chapters has been prepared and delivery is ongoing.

A further 140 families (100 families in Bulacan, 35 families in Quirino and 5 families in Kalinga) were identified with shelter needs by other chapters and they will also benefit from the same shelter package. Procurement of these additional packages has been undertaken.

Distribution of the shelter materials to the vastly scattered beneficiaries is rather complex and is likely to take more time than envisaged.

A standard plan for shelter construction has been developed by the project engineer as a guide for beneficiaries. A letter of commitment to be signed by beneficiaries has also been prepared to motivate the beneficiaries to complete the construction of their shelter.

This will be facilitated by a partnership which is yet to be finalized between PNRC and a local agency. The partnership articulates that the partner organization will supply the families with additional material, technical support and supervision and monitoring, and report to PNRC on completion of the houses.

Health, water and sanitation

Objective: 25,000 families (approximately 125,000 people) have improved access to primary health care services, water and sanitation facilities.

Progress/Achievements***Distribution of new emergency health kits***

The allocation of new emergency health kits in identified health centres in Gabaldon, Nueva Ecija and in the Dinggalan, Maria Aurora, San Luis, and Baler municipalities of Aurora was completed including General Nakar of Quezon which was supposed to be done in April. The distribution and turnover activities were undertaken between 12 April and 19 May with the presence of PNRC representatives, *barangay* captains, local government unit and health officials, and in some case alongside relief distributions.

The new emergency health kits provided by the project were mainly allocated in the worst-affected areas in Aurora, Nueva Ecija and Quezon provinces. A summary of the distributed and remaining items is presented in the following table:

Contents	Total Allocation=12 kits	Distributed	Remaining
Basic health units	10 cartons per kit=120	49 cartons/5 kits	71 cartons/7 kits
Supplementary drugs	3 cartons per kit=36	18 cartons/6 kits	18 cartons/6 kits
Supplementary infusions	5 cartons per kit=60	24 cartons/5 kits	36 cartons/7 kits
Supplementary renewable supplies	3 cartons per kit=36	21 cartons/7 kits	15 cartons/5 kits

Supplementary equipments	3 cartons per kit=36	23 cartons/8 kits	13 cartons/4 kits
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The remaining allocation for supplementary drugs and infusions will be used to replenish the supplies provided to the main health centres and hospitals after the assessment of the utilization reports are received. The remaining cartons of basic health units will be pre-positioned in preparation for any eventuality in the coming rainy season.

Service reports on the distributed health kits will be collected in June.

Rehabilitation of the health facilities

The targeted health facilities for rehabilitation, namely one main health centre and eleven *barangay* health stations, were completed by the first week of June and handed over on 13 June 2005.

The bidding and purchase of materials were undertaken in the first half of April. Coordination for the local labour works was discussed with the local *barangay* officials that provided assistance in the organization. Supervision of the entire local work in the area was done through the contract and administration system. The implementation of the rehabilitation works was closely monitored by the field project engineers who were responsible in the inventory and delivery of construction materials, technical supervision of the labourers, and monitoring of progress on a weekly basis.

Delays in the delivery of some of the construction materials were encountered. Consequently, construction work did not start on time. Additional materials were identified when the demolition work was undertaken. Actions to fast track the delivery were facilitated and local purchase of additional available materials was made after consultations and approval from the PNRC project management. In spite of delays, the team continued to work as scheduled and focused to meet the target date of completion at the end of May.

While the rehabilitation has been ongoing, temporary health care services were provided to the communities in a covered court in General Nakar, in *barangay* multi-purpose hall and in the midwives' residences.

Water testing

A water analysis was conducted in March for 11 affected *barangays* in Real of Quezon; the interpretation and recommendation on the results were shared with the municipal health officer, the sanitary inspector and the mayor on 14 April 2005. The sanitary inspector distributed chlorine powder to identified target *barangays* that required chlorination support. Mass health education for the awareness of safe water and importance of boiling was undertaken by the sanitary inspector and midwives with the support of *barangay* health workers trained by PNRC in the areas.

The water tests in Camarines Sur were not facilitated because of lack of staff and overlapping of activities both in the PNRC chapter and the community health and nursing service at the headquarters. Exploration of future water testing needs in chapters affected by disaster and even those implementing projects and programmes related to water and sanitation will be served and will benefit from the water testing kits supplied by the project.

Medical consultations and health education activities

Health education activities

The printing of 100 flip charts on 'Simple Practice on Sanitation and Hygiene' and teaching aid on *hygiene 101* 'How the Disease is Transmitted' and 25,000 health booklets on 'Tips for Good Health' were recommended in the last week of April. The distribution of health booklets started in the third week of May targeting chapters covered by the operation, particularly those with ongoing non-food distributions. The flip charts and teaching aid will be distributed starting the first week of June. The chapters will be instructed to organize a briefing to the trained public health emergency core disseminators on how to use the materials, particularly in target disaster affected communities. A guide for community disseminators is being finalized for production in the first week of June.

While the health education and teaching materials are under process, the community health and nursing service provided existing available materials to the chapters of Nueva Ecija and Aurora. The materials were used during the non-food distribution. Information materials provided included Red Cross health comics regarding immunization, pulmonary tuberculosis (PTB), dengue fever and other health advisory and posters on dengue.

The distribution plan for the information and education materials is presented in the following table :

Target recipients	Quantity of materials			
	Tarpaulin banner - teaching aids	Flip charts	Guide to disseminators	Health booklets
Quezon PNRC provincial chapter G. Nakar, Infanta and Real health facilities (3 rural health units and 32 <i>barangay</i> health stations)	1 35	1 35	1 35	5,000
Aurora PNRC provincial chapter Dinggalan, Baler, San Luis, Ma. Aurora health facilities (4 rural health units and 28 <i>barangay</i> health stations)	1 32	1 32	1 32	5,000
Nueva Ecija PNRC provincial chapter Gabaldon health facilities (1 rural health unit and 5 basic health stations) Camarines Sur chapter, Catanduanes chapter, Cagayan chapter, Quirino chapter, Nueva Vizcaya chapter, Mindoro Oriental chapter, Bulacan chapter, Isabela chapter	1 6 24	1 6 24	1 6 24	2,000 13,000
TOTAL	100	100	100	25,000

Additional health booklets will be printed for distribution to other areas in chapters covered by the operation before the end of June 2005.

Institutional capacity building

Objective: The capacity of the PNRC and the affected communities to respond to emergency situations is increased.

PNRC completed the sixth batch of DRT training by the end of May with two more training workshops underway to cover all the chapters. To date, a total of 165 members from 56 chapters were trained. PNRC staff members, who received Regional Disaster Response Team training, were mobilized for the DRT training including two disaster management services technical staff from the headquarters as trainers and facilitators.

A workshop on the standardization of disaster assessment and DRT deployment was organized on 16 to 20 May 2005 in Manila. Thirty participants, composed of senior managers of the PNRC, technical staff and chapter administrators attended the workshop. As a result of this workshop, a standard template has been developed for PNRC disaster assessment and DRT deployment. Flow charts for the process that needs to be followed have been finalized. To ensure its integration into the PNRC disaster response system, the participants recommended that a training programme for disaster assessment be developed.

PNRC has also undertaken the procurement of DRT equipment which includes safety helmet protectors, safety spectacles, leather gloves, backpacks, sleeping bags, flashlights, life jackets, emergency kits for responders and megaphones. Once delivered to the PNRC central warehouse, the equipment will be distributed to all chapters for use by DRT trained members.

Spanish Red Cross programme funded by ECHO

The project, focusing support to municipalities of Infanta and General Nakar, has exceeded its initial target. Major accomplishments include the distribution of rubber boots to 4,449 families, distribution of 4,074 sets of starter kits, distribution of 1,015 sets of shelter materials (expanding its target areas to Aurora) and provision of medical equipments to two rural health units and a total of 22 *barangay* health stations in Infanta, General Nakar and

Quezon. The health facilities that received the equipments in General Nakar and Infant were those that the PNRC and the Federation had rehabilitated.

Coordination

The PNRC and the Federation continue to maintain close and regular consultation with the national and local government agencies and other humanitarian organizations on various sectors of relief activities. The PNRC is part of the national disaster coordinating council and participates in national coordination efforts and planning.

There was continuous coordination and consultation with the local communities and *barangay* officials during the implementation of the rehabilitation of health facilities and distribution of new emergency health kits.

The Spanish Red Cross/ECHO coordinated with the community health and nursing service for the purchase and provision of equipment assistance for health stations in Infanta and General Nakar, Quezon with reference to the field health assessment undertaken in the areas by the service team. The disaster management service consulted the community health and nursing service for the potential assistance of the Singapore Red Cross for the rehabilitation of health facilities in Aurora province affected by disasters but not supported by this appeal.

Based on the known cost of the procurement of materials thus far, the operational budget is being revised to accommodate some of the needs that were considered not a priority due to perceived lack of funds. The Federation and the PNRC have worked closely on this revised budget which will be finalized this week for approval. All distributions thus far have been monitored by the PNRC headquarters staff and the Federation's delegation.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

Philippines - Floods and typhoons

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 26/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

14/06/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->	4,193,878	TOTAL COVERAGE 81.1%			
ANDORRA, GOVT	30,000	EUR	46,290	14.01.05	
AUSTRALIAN - RC	18,500	AUD	16,326	07.02.05	
BELGIUM - GOVT	28,755	EUR	43,607	03.12.04	FOOD, NON-FOOD, BASIC HOUSEHOLD KITS
BELGIUM - GOVT	348,663	EUR	537,987	24.12.04	PROCUREMENT OF SHELTERS, TRANSPORT, STORAGE, DISTRIBUTION
BRITISH - RC	25,000	GBP	57,150	03.12.04	75% RELIEF NEEDS, 25% OPERATIONAL COSTS
BRITISH - RC	87,475	GBP	190,783	22.02.05	
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID	98,040	GBP	224,119	07.12.04	75% RELIEF NEEDS, 25% OPERATIONAL COSTS
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA/IHA	100,000	CAD	93,800	02.12.04	
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA	100,000	CAD	96,300	17.12.04	
DANISH - RC			28,520	07.12.04	
DANISH - PRIVATE DONOR			445	10.02.05	
ICELANDIC - RC	1,000,000	ISK	17,600	15.12.04	
IRISH - GOVT	200,000	EUR	303,300	09.12.04	
JAPANESE RC	181,700	USD	208,047	27.12.04	
KOREA REPUBLIC - RC			30,000	13.12.04	
LIECHTENSTEIN - RC			5,000	23.12.04	
MONACO - RC	10,000	EUR	15,165	15.12.04	
NETHERLANDS - GOVT/RC	247,525	EUR	381,931	21.12.04	
NEW ZEALAND - RC	25,000	NZD	19,863	02.12.04	
NEW ZEALAND - GOVT			81,700	17.12.04	
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC	1,078,749	NOK	201,726	14.12.04	
NY/PRIVATE DONORS	10,000	USD	11,320	30.12.04	
PRIVATE DONORS ON LINE			17,033	20.01.05	
SINGAPORE - GOVT/RC	50,000	SGD	35,640	07.12.04	
SWEDISH - GOVT	1,000,000	SEK	167,500	03.12.04	
SWEDISH - GOVT	1,000,000	SEK	170,000	20.12.04	
SWEDISH - PRIVATE DONOR			490	30.12.04	
SWISS - RC			106,952	09.12.04	
SWISS - GOVT			100,000	07.12.04	
TAIWAN RC ORGANIZATION	11,400	USD	13,053	21.12.04	
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - RC	5,000	USD	5,660	31.01.05	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH			3,227,307	CHF	77.0%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT

Philippines - Floods and typhoons

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 26/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

14/06/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
FEDERAL EXPRESS	TRANSPORT			N/A	15/12/2004	FREE TRANSPORT OF TENTS
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		929,596	NOK	175,694	01.03.05	RELIEF GOODS & TRANSPORT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				175,694	CHF	4.2%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	