

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Philippines: Typhoon Fengshen

DREF operation n° MDRPH004
GLIDE n° [TC-2008- 000093-PHL](#)
24 June 2008

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 200,000 (USD 190,476 or EUR 122,926) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the national society in delivering immediate assistance to some 80,000 families (400,000 beneficiaries). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Typhoon Fengshen ripped through the Philippines archipelago, leaving 177 dead, 435 missing, 70 injured and affecting some 209,337 families (866,566 people) in its wake. Altogether 53,027 houses were damaged and 34,063 destroyed. The provinces most affected are located in the islands of Visayas, Mindanao and Luzon. The number of casualties is expected to rise after the MV Princess of Stars sank off the coast of Romblon.

DREF funds will be used for assessments to be conducted by the regional disaster response teams and water and sanitation engineers, along with the deployment and operation of emergency water equipment.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by September 2008; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by December 2008).

[<click here for contact details,](#)
[or here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

The situation

Heavy rains and strong winds of up to 110 kph lashed the Philippine archipelago on 19 June as typhoon Fengshen (locally known as Typhoon Frank) moved in a west-northwest direction. On 18 June, the active low pressure area east of Northern Mindanao developed into a tropical depression, intensifying into a storm as it wrought havoc across the Northeastern Mindanao-Samar Area, the Visayas and Luzon. The provinces most affected are located in the islands of Visayas, Mindanao and Luzon. Yesterday (23 June), Typhoon Fengshen passed east of the capital of Manila, crossed central Luzon and moved out of the Philippines towards the South China Sea.

Table 1: Provinces affected by the typhoon

Region	Province
Luzon	Bataan, Cavite, La Union, Aurora, Pampanga, Mindoro Oriental, Pangasinan
Visayas	Eastern Samar, Negros Occidental, Antique, Capiz, Cebu, Iloilo, Ormoc, Romblon, Leyte
Mindanao	Sultan Kudarat Province – Tacurong City, Zamboanga del Norte, Gen. Santos City, Cotabato, Zamboanga City

According to the Philippines National Red Cross and the Office of Civil Defence, the typhoon left 177 dead, 435 missing, 70 injured and affected some 209,337 families (866,566 people) as of today. Altogether 53,027 houses were damaged and 34,063 destroyed.

The Department of Agriculture reported that damage to crops had reached nearly PHP 555 million (CHF 12.6 million), affecting an estimated 246,000 hectares of rice farms.

Major roads, bridges and other infrastructure damage were also sustained especially in the western Visayas and Luzon region. Power and telecommunication lines are also down in many areas. Heavy rains also caused flash floods, landslides and storm surges while many other areas of the country remained under water. Typhoon Fengshen passed over central Luzon, the "rice granary" of the Philippines, on its way out of the country. Several provinces in the region were still submerged on 23 June, with fatal flash floods and landslides reported in several parts of Mindanao on 21 June.

The number of fatalities is expected to rise after the MV Princess of Stars sank off the Romblon Island in the Visayas. The ferry, bound for Cebu Island, central Visayas, was carrying more than 800 people. As of 24 June, seven bodies were washed ashore, while 28 survivors were found in Mulanay. The government's search and rescue efforts continue for those still missing. Many fishing vessels were also reported missing.

The priority is on relief and rescue operations especially the island region of Western Visayas, the worst hit, where water was reportedly as high as a double-storey house. In Iloilo, about 30,000 residents reportedly climbed on to rooftops to flee rushing water from an overflowing dam.

The government flew two C-130 planes to the area on 23 June to assess the damage and provide relief supplies after strong winds had prevented an earlier delivery of goods by helicopter. Authorities say that only after the aerial assessment would they know the full extent of the damage.

According to authorities, the immediate needs are medicines, drinking water, rice, noodles, blankets, and clothing. The local government began distributing rice but much of it was spoiled by the torrential rain before it could be delivered by trucks. The National Food Authority's warehouse (where government-distributed rice is kept) was flooded.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Philippine National Red Cross Society (PNRC) close monitoring of the impending storm resulted in the immediate mobilization of its members and volunteers, through its branches and national headquarters. It has provided relief goods to over 16,000 people in all the affected areas ([see Table 2 below](#)), dispatched medical and first aid teams to assist those needing medical aid including one team deployed to the port area to assist relatives of those aboard the MV Princess of Stars ferry.

The PNRC national headquarters, in coordination with its chapters and local authorities, have been continuously monitoring the situation and providing updates through its operations centre. Hundreds of volunteers have been mobilized in the relief and evacuation efforts along with PNRC's chapter disaster response teams. Assessments are being conducted in municipalities, cities and even at *barangay*¹ levels.

¹ Village communities made up of between 100 - 800 families.

Table 2: Names and number of affected areas, number of persons affected, no. of evacuation centres, and no. of families served by the PNRC.

Province/s	No. of Affected				Damaged Houses		Casualties			Evacuati Centers	Served*	
	City / Mun.	Brgy.	Families	Persons	Partially	Totally	Injured	Missing	Dead		Families	Persons
Antique	3	244	21,853	105,187	2,406	1,334	13	59	31	7		
Bataan	3	22	3,040	15,200								
Batangas	5	5	196	981	1	1	1		1			
Bulacan	12	57	6,434		2	11			2	5		
Capiz	17	473	21,769	110,903			10	4	6	22		
Cebu	5		2,353	8,589	2,930	1,522						
Cavite	3	9	336	1,845	59	12				9	336	1,845
Cotabato	8	43	43,211	214,836		61	20	10	6	20	593	2,870
Dagupan-Pangasinan												
Eastern Samar	4	47	22,143		8,761	589	1					
General Santos			583							2		
Iloilo	30	710	60,565	307,951	28,661	26,596		122	106	98	1,000	5,000
Laguna	29		514		7	9	6		-	16	202	1,010
Leyte	13	53	774	4148	0	599	5	6	10	5	360	884
Manila	1	26	659								57	285
Masbate	16		5,828	29,670	758	665			3		68	340
Mindoro Oriental	4		3,258	18,721	148	6				5	256	1,430
Negros Occidental	18	117	8,076	41,394	298	179		224	4		179	895
Ormoc		5	13								126	630
Pampanga		26					-	-	-			
Rizal Chapter	5	13	525	2,020			4	6	1	7	182	648
Romblon	17	219	5,573	27,865	3,495	2,078			7			
San Pablo City		6	19	105	19						19	95
Surigao Del Sur								7				
Southern Leyte	1	2	112							1	112	560
Valenzuela City		6	372	1,606								
Western Samar	4	48	880	4,838	5,467	379						
Zambales	1	3	92	377								
Zamboanga del Norte		5	159		15	22	10					
Grand Total	199	2,139	209,337	866,566	53,027	34,063	70	438	177	197	3,490	16,492

* refers to standard relief package given

** number of persons served are estimated figures based on a five members / family unit

The needs

The outcome of ongoing assessments will provide a clearer picture of the needs. Presently, the immediate needs:

- Non-food items: clean up kits, blankets and clothing.
- Food items: rice, noodles, drinking water and water purification tablets.
- Medicines and basic health kits.

The proposed operation

In support of the PNRC, the International Federation's DREF will be used for the overall assessment by the deployed regional disaster response team (RDRT). Two members from the RDRT are expected to arrive in the Philippines later today (24 June) while more are expected to arrive in the coming days. DREF will also assist in water and sanitation assessments by water engineers to determine the level of water safety in the affected areas, and to deploy and operate PNRCs emergency water equipment.

Assessments are ongoing and updated information will be available on the DMIS². RDRT members joined by water and sanitation engineers will conduct detailed assessment in the upcoming days.

² DMIS- Disaster Management Information System is an extranet available to Red Cross Red Crescent Movement members only.

Coordination and partnerships

PNRC is represented in all provinces and almost all major cities with a total of 94 chapters. The national society works in partnership with the government and non-government agencies as well as private groups to provide effective support to people in need. PNRC is the only humanitarian organization with a seat in the governmental National Disaster Coordination Council (NDCC).

The International Federation is represented by a head of delegation and a team of committed local staff supporting the PNRC in the monitoring of ongoing relief and in further organizational development of the institution.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

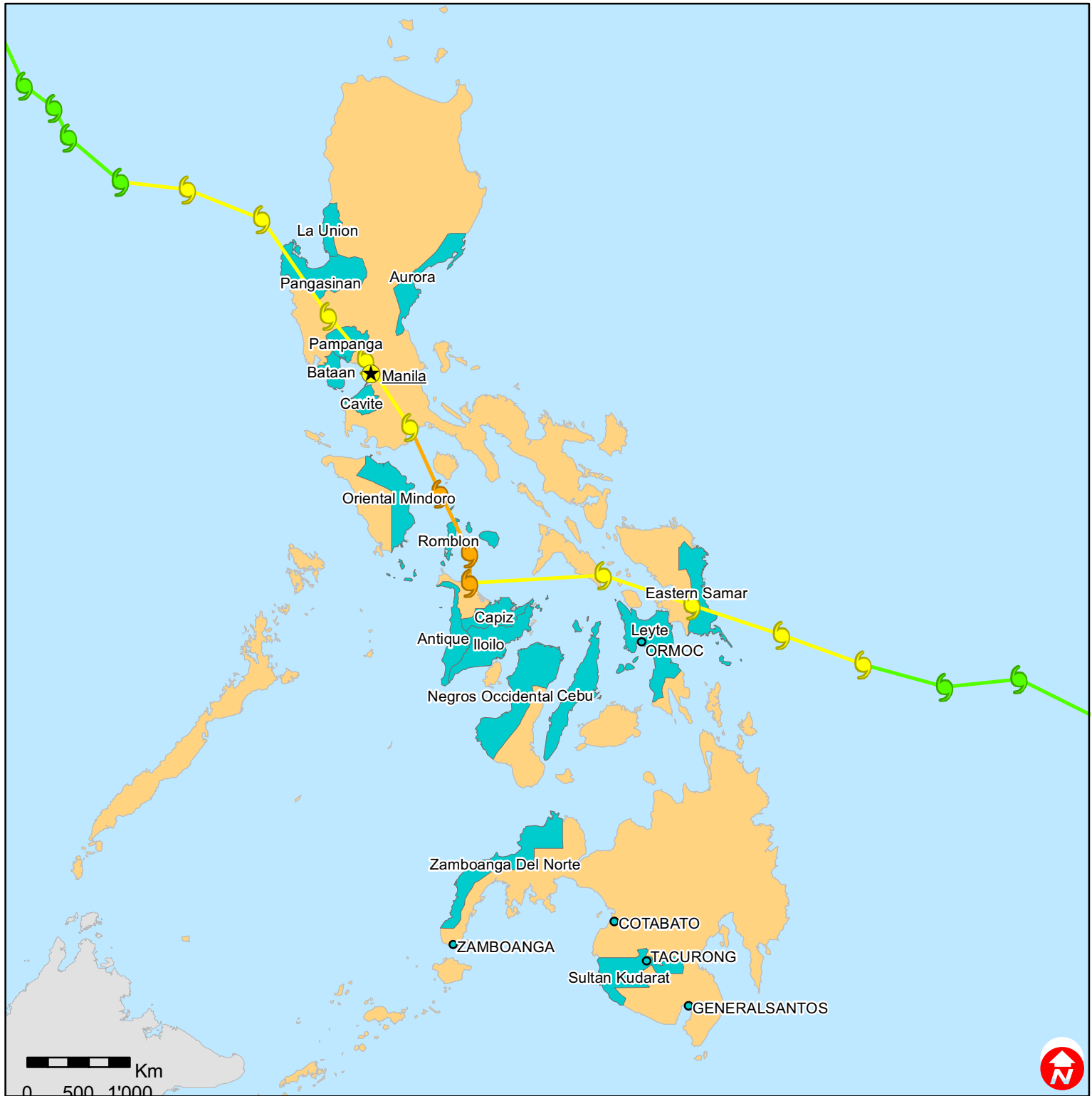
For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[<DREF budget \(if available\) and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)



The Philippines: Typhoon Fengshen



- TROPICAL DEPRESSION
- TROPICAL STORM
- TYPHOON-1
- TYPHOON-2
- Affected cities
- Affected provinces

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, GRUMP, International Federation, UNISYS - MDRPH003.mxd