

Operations update

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Philippines: Typhoons

Emergency appeal n° MDRPH005
GLIDE n° [TC-2009-000205-PHL](#)
Operations update n° 7
17 November 2009

Period covered by this Operations Update: 5 to 14 November 2009;

Appeal target (current): CHF 16,286,096 (USD 16.1 million or EUR 10.8 million);

Appeal coverage: The appeal is 30 per cent covered in cash and kind, with further contributions in the pipeline. Funds are urgently needed to enable the Philippine National Red Cross to provide humanitarian assistance to those affected by this disaster.

Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was issued 23 October 2009 for CHF 16,286,096 (USD 16.1 million or EUR 10.8 million) for eighteen months to assist approximately 110,000 families (550,000 people).
- A revised preliminary emergency appeal was issued 12 October 2009 for CHF 6,854,640 (USD 6.65 million or EUR 4.51 million) for nine months to assist 200,000 beneficiaries.
- The Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis 1 October 2009 for CHF 3,086,571 (USD 2.98 million or EUR 2.45 million) for nine months to assist 200,000 beneficiaries.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 200,000 was allocated from the Federation's DREF to support the national society in initial response.



The Philippine National Red Cross Bulacan chapter volunteers preparing for the distribution of non-food items on 11 November 2009. Photo: Philippine National Red Cross.

Summary: Typhoons Ketsana (locally known as Ondoy) and Parma (locally known as Pepeng) struck the Philippines in quick succession on 26 September and 3 October respectively, wreaking havoc across Central Luzon, including the capital city Metro Manila. The latest typhoon, Mirinae, caused further destruction when it struck southern and central Luzon on 30 October. As of 14 November, the national disaster coordinating council (NDCC) reports 929 people killed and 89 people still missing. To date, government figures report 45,272 houses have been completely destroyed, and 240,571 significantly damaged, while over 10 million

people (about 2 million families) across the country have been affected.

To date, cash and in-kind contributions have been received from American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, British Red Cross/British government, Canadian Red Cross/Canadian government, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross Society of China, Irish Red Cross, Iranian Red Crescent, Japanese Red Cross, Republic of Korea Red Cross, Luxembourg Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross/New Zealand government, Norwegian red Cross/Norwegian government and Swedish Red Cross/Swedish government. Contributions have also been received from the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO), the OPEC Fund for International Development and the Italian government.

On behalf of Philippine National Red Cross, the International Federation would like to thank all partners for their quick and generous response to this appeal.

The situation

Typhoons Ketsana (locally known as Ondoy) and Parma (locally known as Pepeng) struck the Philippines in quick succession on 26 September and 3 October respectively, wreaking havoc across Central Luzon, including the capital city Metro Manila. Two further typhoons, Lupit (locally known as Ramil) and Mirinae (locally known as Santi) have exacerbated already difficult conditions in affected areas throughout the main island of Luzon, including Metro Manila.

The Philippines National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) reports the following details as at 06:00hrs Saturday 14 November 2009:

	Deaths	Injured	Missing	No. of people currently in Ecs	ECs *	Homes destroyed	Homes damaged	Estimated no. of people affected by typhoons
Ketsana (Ondoy)	464	529	37	15,798 families (70,124 people)	244	30,082	154,922	993,227 families (4,901,234 people)
Parma (Pepeng)	465	207	47	3,258 families (14,892 people)	54	6,253	48,120	954,087 families (4,478,284 people)
Mirinae (Santi)	32	20	6	10,185 families (47,909 people)	152	8,937	37,529	143,849 families (657,751 people)
Totals	961	756	90	29,241 families (135,925 people)		45,272	240,571	2,091,163 families (10,037,269 people)

*Evacuation centres

Coordination and partnerships

Within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) is supported by the International Federation including regional disaster response team (RDRT) members, and partner national societies. Movement support in the typhoon relief operation includes operational capacity and the coordination of relief efforts. PNRC also coordinates and cooperates with national and local authorities. Regular coordination meetings are held with all Movement partners at operational level.

International PNRC, Federation and partner national society representatives meet weekly to coordinate all Movement activities.

Inter-agency coordination

The interagency standing committee (IASC) clusters have been activated and are presently coordinating the activities of organizations, donors and government agencies to ensure an efficient and accountable partnership for the Typhoon Ketsana response.

In accordance with the International Federation's global commitment to the IASC cluster approach, the International Federation has deployed a coordination team to lead the emergency shelter cluster. The coordination team will coordinate the activities, record distribution and process assessment data from national and international agencies active in the shelter sector with donors and the Philippine government.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

As of 9 November 2009, PNRC had distributed 136,341 food relief parcels to families and had provided 56,665 hot meals to people affected by the typhoon disasters. A total of 66,213 non-food item sets and 16,624 hygiene kits have also been distributed to affected families. Distribution of food and non-food items is ongoing.

Representatives from the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) regional office in Bangkok paid a monitoring visit to the Philippines. The visit was hosted by the PNRC/International Federation and International Organization for Migration (IOM), and included a visit to the PNRC distribution site in Laguna to monitor distribution of non-food items.

A workshop was held on 6 November 2009 with PNRC headquarter and chapter representatives and all Movement partners attending. The workshop objectives were to review typhoons disaster response activities to date and to discuss intended interventions. Six provinces were identified as priorities for assistance: Pangasinan, Zambales, Bulacan, La Union, Rizal and Laguna. Four sectoral working groups were established: non food items, livelihoods, shelter, and health (including water and sanitation), and tasked with producing potential numbers of beneficiaries in each sector as well as a breakdown per chapter.

Regional disaster response team (RDRT)

The International Federation deployed the regional disaster response team, commonly known as the RDRT, to Manila just days after typhoon Ketsana hit the Philippines on 26 September. In its first rotation, the RDRT was led by Serene Chia of Singapore Red Cross with health, relief, water and sanitation, and logistics team members from Thai, Indonesian and Malaysian Red Cross and Red Crescent societies. Now into its second rotation, the team have included delegates from Thai, Solomon Island, Hong Kong and Nepal Red Cross societies.

One of the first RDRT members to arrive in the Philippines was water and sanitation delegate, Kaharuddin Khaidir, known as Al, from Indonesian Red Cross (PMI). Al received his RDRT training in September 2008 and this was his first mission, though he has been associated with the Red Cross for over 12 years, firstly as a PMI volunteer and then as a staff member for some nine years. Al received the RDRT alert on 29 September and arrived in Manila on 1 October. His mission has included assessments in flood affected areas, and lending technical support to PNRC. The memory that Al takes away him of his month in the Philippines is the gratitude expressed by the people, "they're always smiling, and never fail to say thank you".

The second team leader to the Philippine typhoons RDRT was Pavinee Yuprasert, who completed her one month mission on 12 November 2009. Pavinee is a trained nurse with a masters degree in public health, and has worked with Thai Red Cross for many years in their Relief and Community Health Bureau. Pavinee did her RDRT training in Vietnam in 2005 and has undertaken four missions, including three missions in the Philippines. During this mission, Pavinee has been supporting PNRC's health department in training community health volunteers in hygiene promotion.



Regional disaster response team members Pavinee Yuprasert and Suvapa Hongsiworn from Thai Red Cross and Kaharuddin Khaidir (right) from Indonesian Red Cross at Philippines National Red Cross headquarters. Photo: Philippine National

<p>Pavinee reflected on the commitment of PNR's volunteers, "They're smart and strong and very willing to work in the community. They attended the trainings in their own time from 8am to 6pm and never once complained about the long day".</p> <p>There last two RDRT delegates will complete their missions by the end of November 2009.</p>	<p>Red Cross.</p>
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Progress towards objectives

Since the launch of the preliminary emergency appeal on 1 October, the following objectives have been progressed as follows:

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)	
<p>Objective: The quantities and quality of relief items distributed to the 30,000 affected families are appropriate, with distributions of basic household items (blankets, jerry cans, mosquito nets, buckets, kitchen sets, hygiene items, and sleeping mats) carried out according to assessment and selection criteria based on the identification of needs and vulnerable groups.</p>	
Expected results	Activities planned
<p>The immediate needs of typhoon-affected families living in evacuation shelters and damaged houses are met.</p>	<p>Working with logistics colleagues and PNR's counterparts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Manage a scale up of spontaneous volunteers to reach affected families and communities to meet temporary needs. • Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user. • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions. • Develop an exit strategy.

The following non-food item distributions occurred in the period 12 - 13 November 2009:

- Baliuag, Bulacan x 221 families
- Bustos, Bulacan x 206 families
- Marilao, Bulacan x 331 families
- Sta Maria, Bulacan x 428 families

Total distribution of International Federation-funded non-food items as of 12 November are:

- jerry can 10ltr x 26,879
- jerry can 20ltr x 1,657
- mosquito net x 30,501
- blanket x 27,796
- hygiene kit x 14,499
- sleeping mat x 6,000

The International Federation RDRT relief delegate and American Red Cross delegate attended the Bulacan distributions on 12 November.

The third distribution of non-food items is scheduled to commence on 18 November as follows:

Chapter	Municipality/ City	Distribution Site	Number of Families
Rizal	Tanay	Lico Bridge	137
		Cayumbay and Pinugay	300

	Pasig	Dela Paz Ville, Nagpayong	173
	Morong	Morong Covered Court	109
	Cardona	Calahan	227
		Subay	317
		Subay Hospital	11
		Subay ES	13
La Union	Bauang	HB	135
	Naguilian		56
	Aringay	HB	40
	Tubao	HB	44
	Rosario	HB	42
	Bagulin	HB	70
Pampanga	Candaba		400
	Minalin		400
	Sam Simon		200
Pangasinan	San Miguel	Lapalo	300
	Mangaldan	Macayog	427
		Inlambo	298

The International Federation has procured and received 11,480 blankets, and 14,000 plastic mats and will contribute to the third round distribution. IFRC is in the process of procuring 5,500 hygiene kits.

Representative from the ECHO regional office in Bangkok paid a monitoring visit to the Philippines. The visit was hosted by the PNRC/International Federation and IOM, and included a visit to the PNRC distribution site in Laguna to monitor distribution of non-food items.

American Red Cross has submitted 'request for quotations' to all vendors for procurement of non-food items for 4,000 families, which includes 8,000 mosquito nets, 8,000 blankets, 8,000 jerry cans (10ltr or 4,000 20ltr), and 4,000 hygiene kits. An additional hygiene kits will also be procured by American Red Cross to distribute as replenishment for families still living in evacuation centres. American Red Cross has some funds available for relief items that are still to be identified.

German Red Cross is this week expecting receipt of non-food item kits for 5,500 families (mosquito nets, sleeping mats, jerry cans and blankets). It is a local purchase and will contribute to the above third non-food item distribution. German Red Cross is also expecting to receive this week locally procured cleaning kits for 5,500 families.

The International Federation has advertised two relief/recovery delegate positions to support the PNRC typhoon response operation. Deadline for applications is 23 November.

Health and care

Objective: The health risks of the affected population are reduced through the provision of preventive, community-level and curative services to some 13,000 families (65,000 beneficiaries).
Note: For figures for hygiene promotion please refer to the activities outlined under the water and sanitation sector.

Expected results	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health risks of the affected population are further assessed. Affected people in communities hit by the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with the appropriate health authorities, assist in assessing the basic mortality and morbidity in the population as a result of the emergency and utilizing the obtained information in analysing assessment findings. Working with the appropriate health authorities, assist in

<p>typhoon have received</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appropriate medical services. • Communities have received appropriate referral services for the most vulnerable patients. • Affected communities are supported to develop social resilience. 	<p>assessing the health risks of the affected population in terms of health services, prevention, health needs and risk of communicable diseases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out health promotion activities (linked with hygiene) to affected communities, in coordination with water and sanitation support, through 25 health promotion teams, supported by information, education and communication materials. • Provide medicines through 50 essential drug kits (procured locally through the WHO procurement standards), which have the capacity to supply up to 50,000 people. • Service affected communities through the deployment of seven mobile medical teams for one month. • Establish 60-bed medical post to support local hospital. • Support medical referral systems for malnourished patients, including children, pregnant women and other vulnerable groups. • Support to PNRC to provide psychosocial support to vulnerable communities, volunteers, and staff.
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In partnership with Paudpod local government, PNRC has opened a medical station in Botolon, Zambales for families affected by the consecutive typhoons. The medical station – a 35 square metre tent - provides an examination area and clinic and is staffed by Red Cross volunteers, midwives, doctors and nurses and operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Common ailments seen at the medical station respiratory tract infections, diarrhoea and skin diseases.

PNRC's psychosocial support programme (PSP) will soon commence support to PNRC staff and volunteers who have been engaged in the typhoon disasters. The programme objective is to prevent stress reactions which may have impacted upon the staff and volunteers. The programme will include:

- Debriefing staff who are showing signs of stress or burnout.
- Group discussion on self-care techniques in stressful situations.
- Experience sharing including difficulties encountered.
- Relaxation exercises.

PSP activities will also be undertaken with staff, volunteers and communities in the following chapters/provinces that were affected by the typhoons: Laguna, Rizal, Pangasinan, La Union, Zambales, Bulacan, Baguio, Pampanga, Quezon City, Benguet, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, and Kalinga.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

<p>Objective: The risk of waterborne and water-related diseases has been reduced through the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation as well as hygiene promotion to 45,000 families (or 225,000 beneficiaries).</p>	
Expected results	Activities planned
<p>Access to safe water and adequate sanitation facilities at target evacuation centres has been established along with increased awareness of hygiene practices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the basic water, sanitation and hygiene promotion and likelihood of water and sanitation-related diseases in the affected population. • Address water, sanitation and hygiene priorities among people living in selected evacuation centres, with special emphasis on the needs of women and children. • Survey the availability of safe drinking water for people living in evacuation centres. • Provide water containers and purification tablets to 125,000 people (15,000 families) in particular need for one month (these will be included in the non-food item packages). • Provide 45,000 people (9,000 families) with potable water with the provision of water bladders at targeted evacuation centres. • Provide emergency latrines for a beneficiary group of 45,000 people (9,000 families) (men and women) at evacuation centres. • Conduct emergency participatory hygiene and sanitation

	<p>transformation (PHAST) sessions on the safe use of water and sanitation facilities in the target area through locally identified and trained community health volunteers in selected shelters and respective communities supporting safe return. This will be carried out in three rounds (15,000 people per round) over the duration of the operation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) cluster and maintain regular reporting/feedback. • In collaboration with appropriate government authorities, assist in conducting water quality testing. • Participate in the treatment of water for vector control. • Distribute water purification tablets to complement hygiene promotion activities. • Conduct vector control and prevention measures. • Conduct waste disposal and drainage clearing measures.
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PNRC has water bladders with tap stands functioning in Zambales and, in this reporting week, deployed bladders to evacuation centres in Laguna, including one 5,000 litre bladder in Mayjayjay, and two 11 cbm tanks in Luisiana municipality.

With support from the International Federation, German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross, PNRC has completed the first series of hygiene promotion workshops with 252 community health volunteers and seven staff members. Trainings were held at Rizal on 26 October (34 volunteers), Laguna on 28 and 29 October (100 volunteers), Quezon City on 30 October (seven staff, 30 volunteers), Zambales on 5 November (38 volunteers), and Pangasinan on 9 November 2009 (50 volunteers).

Hygiene and health promotion activities that are inter-linked are targeting following provinces with number of beneficiaries as follows: Laguna 6,000 families; Rizal: 3,000 families; Quezon city: 3,000 families; Zambales: 3,000 families; Pangasinan: 6,000 families. At this stage a total 21,000 families are targeted with hygiene-health promotion activities. Hygiene promotion baseline data collection has been finalized in Quezon City and is underway in other chapters.

Spanish Red Cross and German Red Cross delegates participated in the workshop “Sanitation Techniques for Evacuation Centres and Flooded Areas” that was organized by the water and sanitation hygiene (WASH) cluster and held on 11 November in Calamba, Laguna. The workshop included presentations by Department of Health, Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), as well as a practical demonstration of toilet construction (WASH cluster partner), and a session on strategic planning for future needs, which was led by UNICEF. Spanish and German Red Cross delegates also participated in the “Excreta Disposal and Management for Evacuation Centres and Flooded Areas” technical working group.

The International Federation has advertised a water and sanitation delegate position to support the PNRC typhoon response operation. Deadline for applications is 23rd November.

Shelter

Objective: Assisting 16,500 affected households with safe and adequate shelter and settlement solutions through the provision of locally appropriate materials and guidance on improved building techniques.	
Expected results	Activities planned
Improved shelter conditions at evacuation centres and informal settlements for families with severely damaged, inundated and destroyed houses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the extent of the shelter needs and preferred shelter solutions. • Provide acceptable shelter conditions for persons unable to return to their dwellings in the short term. • Construct 6,500 transitional (typhoon and cyclone-resilient) shelters with latrines for entirely damaged/destroyed houses and repairs to some 10,000 partially damaged homes. • Enable the provision of safe and adequate locally appropriate shelter solutions through appropriate programming methods. • Promote safe and durable shelter where possible through the provision of technical assistance and guidance to all involved in the shelter activities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure shelter and settlement programming includes access to required water and sanitation services. • Incorporate linked livelihoods initiatives where possible to maximise the potential economic benefits of the shelter programming. • Promote increased awareness and understanding of typhoon resilient construction and safe and adequate shelter response • programming with the national society and affected communities, including advocacy with the government for access to appropriate land sites. • Carry out ongoing monitoring and provide assistance to the families involved.
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As per available funding, the International Federation and PNRC is targeting 500 transitional shelters and assistance to some 3,000 households with partially damaged houses. The International Federation and PNRC will increase these target figures as more funding becomes available in this appeal. Currently, chapters are in the process of identification and validation of the numbers of totally destroyed and partially damaged houses in their area, and are establishing prioritising families most vulnerable.

The International Federation team was strengthened by arrival on 12 November of a shelter delegate who will lead the shelter component of the operation.

Early recovery and livelihoods

Objective: To protect the food security and livelihoods of up to 6,500 families (35,000 of the most vulnerable affected people).

Expected results	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved food security for the most vulnerable of the affected population. • Increased livelihood opportunities to supplement coping mechanisms for those households and communities that are reliant on paddy agriculture, fishing, or livestock (until the resumption of their main productive activity). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the livelihood needs, including the possible distribution of seeds and saplings to some 6,500 families as part of a combined relief distribution process, thereby contributing to increased food security. • Provide grants to enable or reinforce livelihoods with the purchase of appropriate tools and equipment to repair fishing nets to a percentage of the targeted fishing households. • Provide vocational training to grant beneficiaries to support supplementary livelihoods in identified districts. • For households reliant on fishing, supplement income for livelihoods until the trawler fishing sector is regenerated. • Provide 25,000 sets of basic school kits (note pads, etc.). This will be coordinated with UNICEF (and other NGOs) working in this sector.

Disaster preparedness

Objective: Communities affected and those at risk of future disasters are supported through increased ability and resilience to deal with future calamities via enhanced disaster preparedness capacity.

Expected results	Activities planned
Local PNRC chapters have	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce PNRC emergency response procedures and

<p>improved stock of essential items and training for staff and volunteers in disaster response.</p>	<p>contingency planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure 15 rubber-boats and train PNRC teams for search-and-rescue work. • Equip local chapters with 850 rubber boots and 500 life-vests for future search and rescue operations. • Equip PNRC headquarters with two land cruisers that will be specially geared for flood situations. • Review the existing disaster assessment procedures with a focus on strengthening chapter participation in disaster management and support. • Enhance the preparedness for future disasters through the provision of technical materials and support the PNRC. • Conduct on-the-job training for PNRC recruits in logistics-relief, fleet management and procurement. • Implementation of integrated community-based disaster preparedness activities (early warning; hazard mapping, identification of safe havens and exploring adapting existing structures, etc.) through a scaled up community based volunteer mobilisation and training strategy linked to sustainable approaches to branch development. • DP stock replenishment (quantities and items to be confirmed with the PNRC).
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Logistics

Procurement activities are ongoing and has been strengthened by expanded logistics team which now includes an International Federation logistics delegate and a RDRT warehouse management delegate.

An updated mobilization table is available on the Disaster Management Information System (DMIS). Currently, all items on the mobilization table are covered with some remaining quantities indicated to be procured locally.

Donors are requested to coordinate with the regional logistics unit in Kuala Lumpur regarding outstanding needs. Shipping instructions will be provided to donors with a consignment tracking number to be issued before shipping any goods to the operation. Procurement of goods and transport can also be arranged through the regional logistics unit.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The International Federation will ensure a steady flow of information continues between the field and headquarters and to Movement partners and other major stakeholders, which will enable the International Federation to keep all parties updated on programme developments. In close collaboration with the PNRC and International Federation operation, the chapters will ensure that targeted beneficiaries are informed about the planned support interventions and are engaged in decision-making in this regard.

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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