

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Philippines: Typhoon Megi

Emergency appeal n° MDRPH006
GLIDE n° **TC-2010-000205-PHL**
Operations update n° 4
22 March 2011

Four-month consolidated report

Period covered by this update:
26 October 2010 to 28 February 2011

Appeal target (current):
CHF 4,183,640

Appeal coverage: With contributions received to date, the appeal is 67 per cent covered in cash and kind. Further contributions needed for Philippine Red Cross to meet the needs of the most vulnerable typhoon-affected families.

[<click here for financial statement>](#)

Appeal history:

- An [emergency appeal](#) launched on 26 October 2010 for CHF 4,183,640 (USD 4.31 million or EUR 3.08 million) for 12 months to assist 12,000 families (approximately 60,000 people).
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF): CHF 214,855 was allocated from IFRC's [DREF](#) on 22 October 2010 to support Philippine Red Cross in its initial response and rapid assessments.



A Red Cross project officer verifies that beneficiaries in Tabuk city, Kalinga, have received the correct quantities of shelter materials.
(Photo: Hajime Matsunaga/IFRC)

Summary: This consolidated report summarizes the progress made during the first four months of the operation. The emergency appeal operation was launched following the effects of super-typhoon Megi, which battered northern parts of Luzon on 18 October 2010 with winds of more than 220km/h and heavy rains, killing 31 people and injuring 42 others. Some 428,000 families (approximately two million people) were affected, with around 148,000 houses damaged – 30,000 of them completely and 118,000 partially.

To date, Philippine Red Cross (PRC) has provided assistance to thousands of typhoon-affected families, with support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross. Relief activities [comprising distribution of food packages, non-food items and tarpaulins for emergency shelter] were concluded during this period. At the conclusion of relief distributions, some 13,300 families had been served with food packages composed of rice, noodles and sardines – 11,200 of them in the five provinces covered by this operation. A total of 10,250 families in the five provinces covered by this operation received non-food items consisting of blankets, hygiene kits, jerry cans, mosquito nets and sleeping mats. Also provided during the relief phase were tarpaulins [for emergency shelter] for 5,400 families in Isabela.

Subsequently, a post-distribution survey was conducted in Cagayan, Isabela and Kalinga in January 2011. The survey revealed an overall satisfaction rate of 96 per cent. It was also observed that some non-food item needs

of targeted beneficiaries had been met by new actors; as such, fewer of certain items were provided in comparison to the appeal target.

Hygiene kits were part of the non-food items and were distributed concurrently with information materials bearing hygiene messages. Some 10,250 families have been assisted in this regard – these 10,250 families received hygiene kits and 6,990 received jerry cans in the five provinces covered by this operation. Remaining targets for jerry cans were covered through bilateral donations.

Shelter interventions intensified during January 2011 and as of end-February, some 1,650 families had received shelter repair kits. Prior to delivery of shelter assistance, between November 2010 and January 2011, effort was on preparatory work, such as identifying and revalidating beneficiaries, and logistics planning, including identifying suppliers with the capacity to provide shelter materials in the quantities required. However, in early February 2011, the president of the Philippines issued an executive order declaring a moratorium on cutting and harvesting of timber in the national and residual forests. The order has had a direct and immediate impact on the operation as some suppliers are facing constraints in obtaining wood materials. This recent development has demanded an adjustment to the methodology of delivering shelter assistance. Instead of commodity vouchers, cash vouchers will be provided for beneficiary families to purchase shelter repair or construction materials at designated shops. Beneficiaries will have the choice of selecting items according to their individual needs – without being limited by pre-determined lists – but within the allocated amount.

To date, cash and/or in-kind contributions have been received from American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross/Canadian government, Finnish Red Cross, European Commission's Humanitarian Aid department (DG ECHO), Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross Society of China, Japanese Red Cross Society, Swedish Red Cross/Swedish government and the Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Emirates.

On behalf of PRC, IFRC would like to thank all partners/donors for their generous and invaluable contributions to this appeal. However, more funds are needed urgently to strengthen the recovery of affected families.

The situation

Typhoon Megi battered the Philippines on Monday, 18 October 2010, with winds of more than 220km/h and heavy rains. The typhoon made landfall as a Category V storm near Divilacan Island on the eastern coast of Isabela province. It weakened as it moved across the northern part of the country, exiting through La Union to the South China Sea on 19 October 2010. In total, 23 provinces were affected, with Cagayan, Kalinga, Isabela, La Union and Pangasinan the worst-hit.

Table 1: Casualties and damage caused by Typhoon Megi (Source: NDRRMC)

Details		Number (as of 30 October 2010)
Deaths		31
Injured		42
Missing		4
Persons affected		427,962 families (2,008,984 persons)
Houses damaged in	Isabela	72,828
	Kalinga	12,753
	Pangasinan	8,378
	Cagayan	14,737
	La Union	5,560
Total number of houses damaged*		118,174*
Houses destroyed in	Isabela	25,186
	Kalinga	1,778
	Pangasinan	1,095
	Cagayan	1,048
	La Union	545
Total number of houses destroyed*		30,048*

*Includes houses damaged/destroyed in all 23 affected provinces

While the direct impact on lives was low, the typhoon caused significant damage to houses, livelihoods and infrastructure. The damage to houses and buildings was mainly because of powerful winds, considering that

Megi made landfall as a Category IV storm. Overall, more than 95 per cent of all houses destroyed or damaged as a result of the typhoon are located in Cagayan, Kalinga, Isabela, La Union and Pangasinan.

Half a month after Typhoon Megi, heavy rains affected Cagayan, Isabela and Kalinga provinces, causing further damages. According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) in all, 123,979 families (533,685 persons) were affected across six provinces. A majority of the families affected by the rains were in localities that were worst-hit by Typhoon Megi – 48,036 families (185,783 persons) in Isabela, 60,253 families (268,721 persons) in Cagayan and 662 families (2,953 persons) in Kalinga. It is also worth remembering that Kalinga, La Union and Pangasinan were severely affected by typhoons Ketsana and Parma of late 2009. Typhoon Megi and the rains that followed brought additional burden on community coping capacities already stretched to their limits.

Coordination and partnerships

Movement coordination: PRC is coordinating its response with Red Cross Red Crescent partners with in-country presence, i.e. IFRC, German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross. These partners hold regular coordination – as well as ad hoc – meetings, complemented by updates from PRC. IFRC delegates who were already in-country supporting the response to the typhoons of 2009 are also supporting this latest operation.

Coordinating with authorities: A long-standing and strong relationship exists between PRC and government bodies through the national society's participation and/or working relationship in/with the following: (i) NDRRMC; (ii) local disaster risk reduction and management councils; and (iii) local government units. PRC also coordinates with the department of social welfare and development (DSWD), department of health (DOH) and department of education (DepEd). PRC continues to participate in NDRRMC meetings as well as coordinates with DSWD and disaster risk reduction and management councils at the provincial, municipal and barangay levels.

Inter-agency coordination: The IFRC country office participates in humanitarian country team (HCT) meetings. Though inter-agency standing committee (IASC) clusters were not activated for Typhoon Megi, during the period under review, IFRC continued to liaise with members of relevant clusters that were activated during the typhoons of 2009. Information sharing with other agencies helped to determine localities in which the various actors are intervening, thereby preventing duplication and building synergies as regards the nature of assistance planned as well as the methodology of providing assistance. Among those that PRC or IFRC has shared information with are Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Handicap International, Oxfam, PhilRads and World Vision. IFRC has also maintained collaboration with other partners, outside the Philippines, including the Directorate General of European Commission's humanitarian aid department (DG ECHO). In February 2011, two teams undertook monitoring visits to the Philippines: DG ECHO and Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP).



DG-ECHO undertook a monitoring visit in February 2011, during which they visited project locations, including Ilagan, Isabela
(Photo: Hajime Matsunaga/IFRC)

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

During the emergency phase, PRC deployed specialized units, such as water search and rescue teams, to provide immediate assistance. The support extended to displaced families that sought shelter in evacuation centres. At the same time, PRC undertook rapid assessments – with support of IFRC, German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross – to determine the nature and extent of needs. Based on identified needs, this emergency appeal operation was launched with the aim of assisting 12,000 families (approximately 60,000 people). Specifically, IFRC would support PRC in addressing immediate food needs of 7,000 families through one-off food distributions, immediate non-food item (NFI) needs of 10,000 families, promoting improved hygiene behaviour among 10,000 families, and enabling 12,000 families to rebuild or refurbish their damaged homes.

The operation also aims at increasing the disaster preparedness capacity of PRC chapters in affected provinces.



Some of the beneficiaries who met PRC's selection criteria register to receive shelter assistance in Ilagan, Isabela
(Photo: Hajime Matsunaga/IFRC)

In general, the operation has targeted households/families as whole rather than individual members of family units. Lists of beneficiaries were provided by DSWD and local government units. Respective Red Cross chapters then revalidate the lists, with volunteers undertaking door-to-door surveys in affected areas. The overarching selection criteria set by PRC prioritizes families headed by women [widows, divorced or separated] without income, families headed by children, families with persons with disabilities, families with young children or elderly family members, families from ethnic minorities and other socially excluded groups. Women, men, girls and boys attend orientation sessions at the start of each intervention – both relief and/or shelter.

By January 2011, relief operations – distribution of food packages, non-food items and tarpaulins – had been concluded. Subsequently, a post-distribution survey was undertaken, covering Cagayan, Isabela and Kalinga. With that, focus turned to preparations for and delivery of shelter assistance. Planning for shelter interventions had started alongside relief distributions. PRC volunteers undertook door-to-door visits to identify/revalidate beneficiaries. As of end February 2010, some 10,750 most vulnerable households had been identified, of which 1,650 in Isabela and Kalinga received shelter repair materials. Revalidation of beneficiaries is expected to be completed by April.

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (food items)

Outcome: Emergency food needs of 7,000 typhoon-affected families are met within one month.

Output	Activities planned
The immediate food needs of 7,000 typhoon displaced families and host families are met through one-off food distributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a beneficiary focusing strategy, including distribution protocols • Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on distribution protocols • Register and verify beneficiaries • Identify displaced families hosted by other families • Mobilize validated beneficiaries for food distributions • Arrange pre- and post-relief distribution volunteer meetings • Provide food (rice, noodles and sardines) to 7,000 families (35,000 persons) as well as to host families • Conduct post-distribution surveys • Monitor and report on distributions

Achievements

In the immediate aftermath of the typhoon – as well as after the effect of rains that followed in November 2010 – PRC served hot meals and assorted emergency food items such as biscuits to families that sought shelter in evacuation centres. In this regard, a total of 1,120 families were served with hot cooked meals and 1,523 with biscuits. Aside from assorted food items, the national society undertook one-off food distributions for displaced families, including those hosted by other families. Some of the food packages were dispatched from stocks that existed at PRC's national headquarters while others were procured at the chapter level.

In all, 13,283 families across 10 provinces [including Baguio City, Benguet, Tarlac and Zambales, which are outside this IFRC operation] received standard food packages comprising rice, noodles and sardines. Of these, 11,191 received food packages through IFRC support, exceeding the appeal target of 7,000 families. The result/output for food distributions has been fully achieved and activities under this objective closed.

Table 2: Families assisted with food packages through IFRC support

Chapter	Number of families assisted
Cagayan	950
Isabela	6,405
Kalinga	2,078
La Union	758
Pangasinan	1,000
Total	11,191

Challenges

Heavy rains that lashed parts of North Luzon half a month after Typhoon Megi caused localized flooding and landslides in some cases. The rains challenged relief distributions either due to limited accessibility or by making it impossible for beneficiaries to venture to distribution points. However, the implementation rate picked up after the rains eased, and distribution of food packages was completed within the timeframe set in the emergency appeal, i.e. within one month.

Relief distributions (non-food items)

Outcome: The status of 10,000 affected families is improved through timely provision of appropriate relief items within four months.

Output	Activities planned
The immediate needs of 10,000 typhoon affected families are met through relief distributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a beneficiary focusing strategy, including distribution protocols Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on distribution protocols Register and verify beneficiaries Identify displaced families hosted by other families Mobilize validated beneficiaries for relief distributions Arrange pre- and post-relief distribution volunteer meetings Distribute blankets (two per family), sleeping mats (two per family) and insecticide-treated mosquito nets (two per family) to 10,000 families (50,000 persons) <i>Note: Items for additional 2,000 families to be provided by PRC using own resources</i> Provide 20-litre jerry cans (1 per targeted family) for household level water storage, to 10,000 families (50,000 persons) <i>Note: Jerry cans for additional 2,000 families to be provided by PRC using own resources</i> Coordinate with other sectors (such as water and sanitation, for distribution of mosquito nets, jerry cans and hygiene kits) Track movement of items from point of dispatch to end-user Conduct post-distribution surveys Monitor and report on distributions

Achievements

Relief activities were initiated by PRC – with IFRC support, using funds advanced from [DREF](#) – immediately after the typhoon and alongside assessments. As regards selection of beneficiaries, priority was on

economically-disadvantaged families and families that had incurred heavy losses of essential household items. Again, the overarching selection criteria of PRC applied.

At the conclusion of relief distributions, some 11,200 families across 10 provinces [including Baguio City, Benguet, Tarlac and Zambales, which are outside this IFRC operation] received non-food items. Also provided as part of relief distributions were tarpaulins [for emergency shelter] for 5,430 families in Isabela. Of the total number of families assisted with non-food items, 10,250 received blankets, hygiene kits, mosquito nets and sleeping mats through IFRC support with 6,989 of these receiving jerry cans; remaining selected recipients of jerry cans were covered through bilateral donations.



Typhoon-affected families in Kalinga receive relief items. Items for 10,250 families were provided through IFRC support (Photo: Hajime Matsunaga/IFRC)

Subsequently, a post-distribution survey was conducted in Cagayan, Isabela and Kalinga in January 2011. The survey revealed an overall satisfaction rate of 96 per cent. It was also observed that some non-food item needs of targeted beneficiaries had been met by new actors. As such, fewer of some items were provided in comparison to the appeal target. Overall, the appeal target of 10,000 families has been exceeded. The result/output for non-food item distributions has been fully achieved and activities under this objective closed.

Table 3: Families assisted with non-food items solely through IFRC support

Chapter	Blankets (2 per family)	Sleeping mats (2 per family)	Mosquito nets (2 per family)	Jerry cans (1 per family)	Hygiene kits (1 per family)
Cagayan	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	1,000
Isabela	6,750	6,750	6,750	4,989	6,750
Kalinga	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,000	1,500
Pangasinan	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total	10,250	10,250	10,250	6,989	10,250

Challenges

Delivery of relief items and tarpaulins to affected families in isolated coastal areas of Divilacan and Maconacon, in Isabela province, was initially constrained. The two localities remained inaccessible weeks after the typhoon made landfall, prompting PRC to dispatch tarpaulins alongside relief supplies via sea on 31 October 2010. The items arrived during the first half of November. Additionally, during most of November 2010, distribution of relief items in Cagayan, Isabela and Kalinga was constrained by fresh rains. The rains caused flooding in some areas, and diverted the attention of respective PRC chapters, which had to respond to immediate needs prompted by the flooding. Nevertheless, distributions resumed after the rains subsided and access was restored: the relief phase was completed within the timeframe set in the emergency appeal, i.e. within four months.

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Outcome: Risk of water-related and hygiene-related diseases is reduced among 10,000 families in typhoon-affected areas.

Output	Activities planned
Household level water treatment and safe storage as well as	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify families in need of emergency household water treatment Provide water purification solutions to identified families in need,

<p>improved hygiene behaviour is practiced amongst the target population</p>	<p>through trained volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 20-litre jerry cans (1 per targeted family) for household level water storage, to 10,000 families (50,000 persons) <i>Note: Jerry cans for additional 2,000 families to be provided by PRC using own resources – see also relief distribution: non-food items.</i> • Provide hygiene kits (1 per targeted family) to 10,000 families (50,000 persons) <i>Note: Kits for additional 2,000 families to be provided by PRC using own resources</i> • Conduct post-distribution surveys to determine water treatment and safe storage practices (where water purification solutions provided) • Coordinate with other sectors (such relief distributions for water storage containers and hygiene kits) • Mobilize existing trained community health volunteers • Recruit and train new/additional community health volunteers • Undertake baseline surveys to determine level of awareness and hygiene practices in project communities • Produce and distribute information, education and communication materials • Mobilize community health volunteers and members for hygiene and health promotions sessions • Disseminate relevant hygiene and health messages in the target communities • Undertake final surveys to determine level of improvement in awareness and practices • Monitor and report on activities • Ensure continuity by linking to the community health education project under the annual appeal programme
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Achievements



This boy accompanied his father to receive relief items in Pinukup, Kalinga. Up to 10,250 families received hygiene kits through IFRC support (Photo: Hajime Matsunaga/IFRC)

Distribution of hygiene kits and jerry cans was accompanied with provision of information materials bearing hygiene messages and was done as part of the overall relief operation. At the conclusion of relief distributions, PRC had distributed hygiene kits to 12,790 families in four provinces: Cagayan, Isabela, Kalinga and Pangasinan. As mentioned under 'relief distributions, 10,250 families received hygiene kits through IFRC support.

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

Challenges

During the relief phase of this operation, hygiene promotion was limited to distribution of information materials bearing hygiene messages alongside hygiene kits and jerry cans. Upon conclusion of the relief phase, IFRC's water and sanitation delegate undertook an analysis of the approach adopted by PRC. The recommendation is for a total review of this component and for the national society not to undertake hygiene promotion activities on a standalone basis. Instead, the possibility of developing a strategy for attaining hygiene behaviour change is encouraged. This could be through implementing hygiene promotion activities using the participatory hygiene

and sanitation transformation (PHAST) methodology and tools in pilot zones, and then scaling up gradually. In view of these recommendations, PRC and IFRC will review the component in the coming weeks and adjust the plan accordingly.

Early recovery (shelter)	
Outcome: 12,000 typhoon-displaced families are sheltered from harsh weather elements, with dignity, at the end of the operation.	
Output	Activities planned
Typhoon-affected households have shelter after rebuilding or refurbishing their damaged homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute tarpaulins to 1,400 families in Isabela for emergency shelter • Coordinate with the department for social welfare and development as well as local government authorities to map potential beneficiaries • Mobilize or recruit volunteers for shelter interventions • Conduct orientation of project volunteers • Select beneficiaries • Undertake door-to-door surveys to validate beneficiaries • Conduct orientation of beneficiaries (by chapter volunteers) • Identify and engage project carpenters • Form project teams comprising volunteers and carpenters • Provide project teams with training that promotes awareness and understanding of typhoon-resistant construction (by IFRC shelter delegates) • Provide posters that promote awareness and understanding of typhoon resistant construction to 2,000 families whose houses were destroyed by the typhoon • Provide to 2,000 families, whose houses were destroyed by the typhoon, with training that promotes awareness and understanding of typhoon resistant construction (project teams) • Identify and map suppliers of shelter materials • Provide house repair materials and tools to 12,000 families whose houses were damaged or destroyed by the typhoon (using a commodity voucher system) • Conduct post-distribution surveys • Monitor and report on assistance provided to beneficiary families

Achievements

Shelter assistance targets families that lacked the capacity to repair/rebuild their damaged/destroyed homes. In addition to this denominator, the families to be assisted have to fall within the overarching selection criteria of PRC. The overarching selection criteria set by PRC prioritizes families headed by women [widows, divorced or separated] without income, families headed by children, families with persons with disabilities, families with young children or elderly family members, families from ethnic minorities and other socially excluded groups. Planning for shelter interventions started alongside relief distributions. PRC volunteers undertook door-to-door visits to identify/revalidate beneficiaries. As of end February 2010, some 10,750 most vulnerable households had been identified to receive assistance under this operation. Revalidation of beneficiaries is expected to be completed by April. The revalidation process entails cross-checking whether beneficiary families listed – in rolls provided by DSWD and local government units – meet PRC’s selection criteria, including by visiting the actual sites where their damaged homes stand or destroyed homes stood to assess the extent of damage. This is to ensure that the Red Cross serves the most vulnerable who have not received assistance from other actors.

Category I and II shelter repair kits are being provided to families with severely damaged or destroyed houses, respectively. In this regard, 1,649 families in Isabela and Kalinga received shelter repair materials: 1,217 in Kalinga and 243 in Isabela received Category I shelter repair kits while 189 in Isabela received Category II shelter repair kits. For Category I, each beneficiary family is allocated between PHP 7,000 and PHP 8,000¹ worth of materials and tools such as corrugated galvanized iron sheets, lumber, plywood, nails, sealant, claw

¹ Some CHF 146-CHF167 – exchange rates are indicative only

hammer, handsaw, chisel, drop forge, electrical wires and sockets. Beneficiary families request any combination of materials and tools (in reasonable quantities), provided that the total amount of the request does not exceed the allocated amount. For Category II shelter repair kits, each beneficiary family has the option of materials and tools as in Category I. However, there are additional items under this category. The pre-set items are three bags of cement, six timber posts (6"X6" or 4"X4"), and eight pieces of steel bars (four of ø 10mmX6m, and four of ø 8mmX6m). The total cost of materials for this category ranges between PHP 12,000 and PHP 15,000².

Table 4: Status of shelter assistance (as of 28 February 2011)

Project location	Category I shelter repair kit		Category II shelter repair kit		Total Category I & Category II	
	Revalidated	Assisted	Revalidated	Assisted	Revalidated	Assisted
Kalinga	1,217	1,217	263	n/a	1,480	1,217
Isabela	5,684	243	2,707	189	8,391	432
Cagayan	346	n/a	531	n/a	877	ongoing
La Union	ongoing	n/a	ongoing	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pangasinan	ongoing	n/a	ongoing	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	7,247	1,460	3,501	189	10,748	1,649

In addition, families assisted with Category II shelter repair kits are provided with posters showing how to construct typhoon-resistant shelters. Before they receive the necessary materials, they attend orientation sessions organized by project teams composed of carpenters, PRC volunteers and IFRC shelter delegates. The orientation sessions highlight basic better building techniques. The rationale behind this is to encourage families who lost their homes to construct houses with steady foundations, placing poles in concrete footings with reinforcement. This is one component of cyclone-resistant shelters. Women, men, girls and boys attend the orientation sessions.

Subsequently, repair or construction is done through *bayanihan* – a tradition common in Philippine rural areas, where community members help each other. Through *bayanihan*, beneficiaries with limitations to participate in physical construction work [e.g. older people, people with disabilities, households headed by women, households headed by children] are supported by their fellow community members. However, because such groups benefit from orientation sessions, they were not passive recipients of assistance.

Other preparatory work initiated alongside revalidation of beneficiaries was identifying and mapping suppliers who could be contracted to provide the required shelter material. The IFRC logistics team supported PRC in this process, based on an existing list of qualified suppliers who proved reliable in previous operations as well as seeking and selecting new suppliers. This preparatory work will ensure timely delivery of shelter materials and tools – through a commodity voucher system – as soon as the revalidation process was completed.



However, owing to implications of the ban on cutting and harvesting of timber [see challenges below] IFRC and PRC have reviewed the methodology of providing shelter repair kits. The new approach adopted is to provide cash vouchers instead of distributing shelter materials. In this approach, beneficiaries are provided with cash vouchers to purchase shelter materials at recommended shops. They have the choice of selecting shelter items

² Some CHF250-CHF312 (indicative only)

according to their individual needs – without being limited to those in pre-determined lists – but within an allocated amount. Besides speeding up the process, this methodology will ensure full ownership by beneficiaries. It will also eliminate potential corrupt practices by suppliers who could otherwise have been tempted to acquire banned wooden materials to gain contracts for supplying pre-determined materials that were required if the commodity voucher methodology applied. Granting beneficiaries a free hand to determine/select the materials they need will also ensure that they play a bigger role in their own recovery within the actual markets that they would have obtained such items if they had their own money. In the meantime, provision of shelter materials and tools through the commodity voucher system is being phased out.

Challenges

Planning for shelter interventions initially took time since recovery plans of national, provincial and local authorities had not been finalized at the time of launching the emergency appeal. It was, therefore, still unclear what sort of recovery assistance the authorities planned to provide, and in what localities. Related to this, coordination mechanisms did not function sufficiently at the initial stage. This was mainly because there was no formal request for international assistance by the authorities. It took weeks for formal coordination to be established by the different agencies involved. The delay prolonged the preparatory period since it was crucial to liaise with different agencies in the targeted areas regarding selection of beneficiaries [to avoid overlap], nature of assistance planned, and methodology of providing planned assistance, among others.

Though inter-agency coordination improved overtime, the process of identifying and revalidating beneficiary families eventually consumed a significant bulk of time. This was mainly because the typhoon had affected a large geographical area, with potential beneficiary families in scattered locations. There was also the need to ensure duplication of effort was avoided, and as such, some significant time was spent on reviewing lists of targeted localities from various agencies. Another factor that contributed to the protracted preparatory period was the December holiday period. Christmas saw a decrease in beneficiary/volunteer participation/availability as most took advantage to spend time with their families.

Logistic planning revealed that there were a limited number of local suppliers with the capacity to provide shelter materials in the required quantities. An analysis undertaken by the IFRC logistics team in project locations hinted that it would be a challenge to obtain traditional coco lumber. The alternative would be to provide good lumber, albeit it would imply an increase in the cost of the shelter repair kits. However, in early February 2011, the president of the Philippines issued an executive order, declaring a moratorium on the cutting and harvesting of timber in the national and residual forests. The order prohibits the department of environment and natural resources (DENR) from issuing/renewing tree cutting permits in all natural and residual forests. It also requires DENR to review all existing permits and cancel permits of those who have violated the terms. The order has had a direct and immediate impact on this action because suppliers are already facing obvious constraints in obtaining wood materials, prior to the review of permits by DENR. It is because of this reality that PRC has reviewed the methodology of providing shelter repair kits. They are phasing out the commodity voucher system in favour of cash vouchers.

In addition to the above challenges, planning for shelter activities was done while keeping in mind the available resources. As it is, to date, available funds can support the provision of shelter repair kits to only 8,000 of the targeted 12,000 typhoon-affected families. Additional support from partners – specifically for shelter activities – is, therefore, needed and encouraged.

National Society capacity building and preparedness

Outcome: The disaster preparedness capacity of chapters in affected provinces increased within 12 months.

Outputs	Activities planned
PRC chapters in operational areas have improved their disaster response and overall capacity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train and equip three water search-and-rescue teams • Equip Isabela and Kalinga chapters with two land cruisers, geared for flood situations • Repair and refurbish Isabela, Kalinga and Pangasinan chapter office buildings • Increase training of the chapter disaster response teams in key hazard areas • Provide training and orientation for volunteers at targeted chapters in disaster preparedness and response skills • Support overall chapter development, including in administration, finance and logistics

Achievements

In order to ensure effective and swift support to PRC, IFRC established a field office in Isabela. The field office is providing technical support to chapters in north Luzon that are involved in this operation – Cagayan, Isabela and Kalinga. Some delegates who were already in-country supporting the ongoing operation [MDRPH005](#) have been re-assigned to provide support to respective PRC chapters. The delegates work alongside PRC staff and volunteers, thereby providing on-the-job coaching, mentoring and technical advice.

Meanwhile, IFRC has acquired two land cruisers for the national society. The vehicles are expected to arrive in Manila by end-March 2011. They will contribute to enhancing the capacity of PRC chapters in affected areas to monitor programmes. Additionally, funding permitting, IFRC will support PRC to form, train and equip three land and water search and rescue teams. This will increase the capacity of targeted chapters to respond to future potential disasters and consequently contribute to saving lives. Equipment to be provided will include rubber boats with paddles and outboard motor engines, personal flotation devices, helmets, raincoats, boots, eye protectors, heavy-duty torches, gloves, wet suits, whistles, throw lines, rescue harnesses, sledgehammers and shovels.

Also as part of national society capacity building, in December 2010, IFRC organized two-day sessions on ‘emergency communications’ and ‘beneficiary communications’ for PRC staff. The sessions were facilitated by the IFRC communications manager for Asia Pacific. The first day was specifically for staff of PRC’s communications unit while the second day was for PRC’s senior managers from the national headquarters and selected chapters. In the same vein – but relating to water and sanitation – in February 2011, IFRC organized a PHAST training workshop for 30 PRC staff and volunteers. The workshop aimed at developing a pool of trained persons that will support implementation of hygiene promotion activities at the community level.

Logistics

The IFRC’s regional logistics unit (RLU) in Kuala Lumpur has supported the international mobilization of items such as 4,200 hygiene kits, 20,000 mosquito nets and 1,400 tarpaulins [which were dispatched from the RLU warehouse] and 5,800 hygiene kits donated in-kind by Finnish Red Cross. Other items such as corrugated galvanized iron sheets, galvanized plain sheets, blankets, jerry cans and sleeping mats are being procured locally with the technical support of the RLU. Local procurement of 3,500 blankets, 7,000 sleeping mats and 10,000 jerry cans is completed. An updated mobilization table is available on IFRC’s disaster management information system ([DMIS](#)).

The IFRC in-country logistics team – which comprises two logistics delegate and two logistics officers – continues to support PRC in securing additional transport and warehousing capacity, identifying/mapping suppliers, preparing contracts and follow-up with suppliers. Support also extends to fleet management, with some vehicles leased from IFRC’s fleet base in Dubai to facilitate movement and monitoring in the field.

Communications – advocacy and public information

Since Typhoon Megi made landfall, IFRC and PRC have maintained a steady flow of information to Red Cross Red Crescent partners and other major stakeholders. PRC leadership and the IFRC country representative conducted interviews with various local and international media outlets.

Various communications materials, including photos and a video, have been shared with partners to highlight the needs on the ground and the progress made thus far. Stories, information bulletins and updates on the Typhoon Megi operation are available on the [Philippine Red Cross](#) page of IFRC public website. Updates and stories can also be accessed on PRC's website, <http://www.redcross.org.ph/>

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 \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

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.

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.

Contact information

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

In the Philippines

- Philippine Red Cross (phone: +63.2.525.5654, fax: +63.2.527.0857):
 - Gwendolyn T. Pang, secretary-general; email: gwenpang@redcross.org.ph
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- IFRC country office (phone: +63.2.309.8622, fax +63.2.524.3151):
 - Sandro Kushashvili, head of operations, email: alexander.kushashvili@ifrc.org;
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- Alan Bradbury, head of resource mobilization and PMER; email: alan.bradbury@ifrc.org
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Please send all pledges of funding to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org

[**<financial report below; click here to return to title page>**](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRPH006 - Philippines - Typhoon Megi

Interim Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/10-2011/2
Budget Timeframe	2010/10-2011/10
Appeal	MDRPH006
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	4,183,640					4,183,640
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>American Red Cross</i>	29,455					29,455
<i>British Red Cross</i>	155,909					155,909
<i>Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)</i>	166,595					166,595
<i>China Red Cross, Hong Kong branch</i>	25,145					25,145
<i>European Commission - DG ECHO</i>	1,196,411					1,196,411
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>	67,766					67,766
<i>Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)</i>	127,590					127,590
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>	138,100					138,100
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>	52,133					52,133
<i>Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)</i>	421,805					421,805
<i>United Arab Emirates Red Crescent</i>	9,632					9,632
C1. Cash contributions	2,390,540					2,390,540
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
<i>European Commission - DG ECHO</i>	306,513					306,513
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>	10,309					10,309
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	316,823					316,823
<u>Inkind Goods & Transport</u>						
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>	71,589					71,589
C4. Inkind Goods & Transport	71,589					71,589
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	2,778,952					2,778,952
D. Total Funding = B + C	2,778,952					2,778,952
Appeal Coverage	66%					66%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	2,778,952					2,778,952
E. Expenditure	-762,833					-762,833
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	2,016,119					2,016,119

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRPH006 - Philippines - Typhoon Megi

Interim Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/10-2011/2
Budget Timeframe	2010/10-2011/10
Appeal	MDRPH006
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		4,183,640					4,183,640	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	2,441,000	255,055					255,055	2,185,945
Clothing & textiles	240,000	120,112					120,112	119,888
Food	31,500	17,392					17,392	14,108
Medical & First Aid		21					21	-21
Utensils & Tools	30,000	22,859					22,859	7,142
Other Supplies & Services	351,000	120,501					120,501	230,499
Total Supplies	3,093,500	535,940					535,940	2,557,560
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	60,000	58,869					58,869	1,131
Computers & Telecom	4,800	2,731					2,731	2,069
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	64,800	61,600					61,600	3,200
Transport & Storage								
Storage	36,000	6,594					6,594	29,406
Distribution & Monitoring	50,000	4,840					4,840	45,160
Transport & Vehicle Costs	52,000	17,157					17,157	34,843
Total Transport & Storage	138,000	28,592					28,592	109,408
Personnel								
International Staff	372,000	56,336					56,336	315,664
National Staff	48,000	4,627					4,627	43,373
National Society Staff	48,000	5,770					5,770	42,230
Consultants	25,000							25,000
Total Personnel	493,000	66,733					66,733	426,267
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	30,000							30,000
Total Workshops & Training	30,000							30,000
General Expenditure								
Travel	18,000	3,539					3,539	14,462
Information & Public Relation	3,000	2,369					2,369	631
Office Costs	54,000	4,398					4,398	49,602
Communications	27,000	1,525					1,525	25,475
Professional Fees		3					3	-3
Financial Charges	5,000	-139					-139	5,139
Other General Expenses	2,000	27					27	1,973
Total General Expenditure	109,000	11,722					11,722	97,278
Programme & Service Support								
Programme & Service Support	255,340	46,357					46,357	208,983
Total Programme & Service Support	255,340	46,357					46,357	208,983
Services								
Services & Recoveries		9,377					9,377	-9,377
Services & Recoveries		2,514					2,514	-2,514
Total Services		11,890					11,890	-11,890
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	4,183,640	762,833					762,833	3,420,807
VARIANCE (C - D)		3,420,807					3,420,807	