

# DREF operation

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Philippines: Typhoon Megi

DREF operation n° MDRPH006  
GLIDE n° [TC-2010-000205-PHL](#)  
22 October 2010

The IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created 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 IFRC's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

**CHF 214,855 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) in delivering immediate assistance to support the national society in conducting needs assessments and delivering immediate assistance to some 3,000 families (15,000 persons). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.**



Joint Red Cross Red Crescent teams are on the ground surveying the extent of the damage and the needs. They comprise members from PRC, IFRC, German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross. One team was in Isabela, where 24,203 houses have been destroyed and 44,836 damaged.  
Photo: Nilo Lagasca/Philippine Red Cross

**Summary:** Typhoon Megi battered the Philippines on Monday, 18 October 2010, with winds of more than 220km/h and heavy rains. Weather authorities report that the super storm made landfall 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 Tuesday, 19 October 2010, morning.

Powerful winds and heavy rainfall were experienced throughout Ilocos (Region I), Cagayan Valley (Region II), Central Luzon (Region III), and Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR). Cagayan and Isabela provinces of Region II as well as La Union and Pangasinan of Region I, were severely affected. Ilocos Norte, Isabela, La Union, Pangasinan and Zambales provinces have been placed under a state of calamity.

According to the national disaster risk reduction and management council (NDRRMC) report released on 22 October 2010, there were 26 typhoon-related deaths and 34 injuries, as of the morning of the same day. Some 283,096 families (1.35 million people) have been affected, with 8,002 families (32,909 people) sheltered in 251 evacuation centres established across the affected provinces. At least 187,860 houses have been damaged; 27,489 of them destroyed and 160,371 partially damaged. The provinces that have reported the most number of damaged houses are Isabela (with 24,203 destroyed and 44,836 partially damaged), Kalinga (with 1,465 destroyed and 6,991 partially damaged) and Cagayan (with 879 destroyed and 100,949 partially damaged).

When the typhoon made landfall, overtly dangerous weather conditions forced Philippine Red Cross (PRC) rescuers to delay immediate response. However, where safety conditions permitted, the rescuers took people out of harm's way. As soon as the storm subsided and safety conditions allowed, staff and volunteers provided relief supplies to families in evacuation centres. The national headquarters dispatched additional relief supplies to enable its chapters in the provinces hardest-hit to serve those affected. Four joint Red Cross Red Crescent assessment teams are on the ground surveying the extent of the damage and the needs.

Philippine Red Cross and the IFRC country office are presently preparing an emergency appeal based on more detailed assessment information.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 22 January 2011. A final report will be made available three months after the end of the operation; i.e. by 22 April 2011.

[<see DREF operation budget, contact details, or a map of the affected areas>](#)

## The situation

Typhoon Megi battered the Philippines on Monday, 18 October 2010, with winds of more than 220km/h and heavy rains. Weather authorities report that the super storm made landfall 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 Tuesday, 19 October 2010, morning.

Almost a day before the typhoon made landfall, respective government agencies activated preparedness measures and response teams were on standby for deployment. The national disaster risk reduction and management council (NDRRMC) – which coordinates government response to disasters – issued regular advisories. The advisories were disseminated to respective local disaster risk reduction and management councils, from provincial to the municipal levels. Pre-emptive evacuation of families in low-lying areas and near mountain slopes was undertaken to minimize casualties resulting from flooding, landslides and mudslides. Ambulances and medical teams were mobilized in areas likely to be hit and with regional hospitals put on alert. The department of health provided additional medicine to local health centres in areas likely to be hard hit while the department of education ordered the suspension of classes in areas placed on higher public storm alert in northern Luzon.

Residents living in low-lying and mountainous areas were alerted against possible flash floods and landslides, and those in coastal areas, of possible storm surges.

When Megi made landfall, powerful winds and heavy rainfall were experienced throughout Ilocos (Region I), Cagayan Valley (Region II), Central Luzon (Region III), and Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR).

Cagayan and Isabela provinces, in Region II, were severely affected, with communication channels cut and access prevented due to stormy weather. Isabella and Cagayan provinces – which felt the first impact of Megi, experiencing province-wide power failures and interrupted communication services – are the worst hit. Other areas that felt the brunt of the typhoon include Abra, Apayao, Baguio City, Benguet, Ifugao, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Kalinga, La Union, Mountain Province and Pangasinan. Ilocos Norte, Isabela, La Union, Pangasinan and Zambales provinces have been placed under state of calamity.

According to the NDRRMC report released on 22 October 2010, there were 26 typhoon-related deaths and 34 injuries, as of 22 October 2010 morning. Some 283,096 families (1,352,812 persons) have been affected, with 8,002 families (32,909 persons) sheltered in 251 evacuation centres established across the affected provinces. At least 187,860 houses have been damaged; 27,489 of them destroyed and 160,371 partially damaged. The provinces that have reported the most number of damaged houses are Isabela (with 24,203 destroyed and 44,836 partially damaged), Kalinga (with 1,465 destroyed and 6,991 partially damaged) and Cagayan (with 879 destroyed and 100,949 partially damaged).

### Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Based on its mandate – of providing humanitarian services in times of emergency and disaster – as auxiliary to the authorities, PRC acted even before the typhoon made landfall. The National Society complemented pre-disaster procedures put in place by national, regional and local disaster risk reduction and management councils, including pre-emptive evacuation. It also participated in NDRRMC meetings, to discuss preparedness and response measures, as it is a member agency. PRC disseminated information on measures that communities should take before, during and after the storm. In addition, the National Society deployed a water search and rescue (WASAR) team to Cagayan, with additional teams on standby at the national headquarters and Isabela, La Union, Olongapo, Pangasinan and Zambales chapters.



**A volunteer readies supplies. PRC has provided food and non-food items to some 1,700 families in evacuation centres. Photo: Afrhill Rances/IFRC**

Emergency response units, additional equipment, water treatment plants, ambulances and vehicles were also readied for deployment to priority areas.

When the typhoon made landfall, dangerous weather conditions hampered the deployment of rescue teams. However, where safety conditions permitted, Red Cross rescuers took people out of harm's way even as the storm pounded. As soon as the storm subsided and safety conditions eased, the emergency response units and specialized volunteers – who had been deployed and were on standby well before the typhoon made landfall – began responding to needs, delivering food and non-food items to families in evacuation centres. Since the disaster struck, PRC has provided food and non-food items to some 1,700 families in evacuation centres across the affected provinces.

### The needs

The overall needs will be determined once rapid needs assessments are complete and a detailed action plan will be developed after that. However, based on the impact of the disaster, and in view of the capacity of its chapters in affected provinces, PRC has identified food packages (rice, noodles and sardines) and non-food items as the needs it will address immediately, targeting displaced families in evacuation centres.

Meanwhile, Philippine Red Cross and the IFRC country office are preparing an emergency appeal based on more detailed assessment information.

## The proposed operation

This DREF operation aims at meeting the immediate needs of displaced families in evacuation centres. Specific support will focus on distribution of food (rice, noodles and sardines) and non-food relief items in addition to supporting the municipal government with emergency water distribution and storage. The assistance will be delivered to typhoon-displaced families in Isabela, Cagayan, Kalinga, La Union and Pangasinan. Besides providing direct assistance to displaced families – under this operation – PRC will undertake assessments to determine the nature and extent of needs. Assessment findings will inform the refinement of the action plan.

### First response

**Objective: Rescue operations and emergency assistance provided to protect lives.**

**Activities planned:**

- Undertake water search and rescue operations to support needs and isolated communities
- Mobilize and deploy emergency response units
- Provide storage and distribute emergency water supply in support of municipal authorities
- Distribute tarpaulins to 1,400 families
- Undertake rapid assessments hand-in-hand with emergency services

### Emergency relief distributions (essential food and non-food items)

**Objective: 3,000 families in evacuation centres have received essential food and non-food items.**

**Activities planned:**

- Establish a beneficiary focusing strategy, including distribution protocols
- Provide food (rice, noodles and sardines) to 3,000 families in evacuation centres
- Provide essential non-food items to 3,000 families in evacuation centres
- Undertake rapid assessments hand-in-hand with emergency relief distributions

### Needs assessments

**Objective: Immediate needs established to inform development of an action plan.**

**Activities planned:**

- Deploy chapter disaster response teams (CDRTs) and barangay disaster response teams (BDRTs) to conduct immediate assessments
- Deploy joint Red Cross Red Crescent teams to support chapter and barangay teams in conducting immediate assessments
- Collaborate with local disaster authorities in conducting assessments
- Consolidate assessment reports and develop action plan
- Support PRC in establishing the operation's set up

## Coordination and partnerships

Outside the Movement, PRC participates in NDRRMC meetings as well as coordinates with the department of social welfare and development (DSWD), department of health, and disaster risk reduction and management coordination councils at the provincial, municipal and barangay levels. On Thursday, 21 October 2010, the National Society participated in a 'donor briefing session' organized by the humanitarian country team (HCT). During the session, PRC made a presentation on the preliminary findings of its rapid assessments.

As regards Movement coordination, PRC arranged a meeting a day before Typhoon Megi made landfall, to brief Movement partners with in-country presence – IFRC, ICRC, German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross – on its preparedness and response plan. Red Cross Red Crescent partners have since been holding regular coordination and ad hoc meetings, complemented by daily updates from PRC.

On its part, the IFRC country office continues to participate in HCT meetings. The interagency standing committee (IASC) clusters are holding preliminary meetings to be prepared, should a massive response be required. The country office has played a role in the preliminary meetings of the emergency shelter cluster, during which the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and Handicap International indicated they would be providing shelter repair kits in Isabela.

The IFRC country office deployed delegates to increase assessment efforts. Two have assisted PRC chapters in conducting rapid assessments in Kalinga and Pangasinan. Additional delegates and staff are in Cagayan and Isabela as part of the joint Red Cross Red Crescent assessment teams. They comprise specializations in relief, shelter, water and sanitation, communications and reporting. The rapid response coordinator from European Commission's Humanitarian Aid department (ECHO) regional support office in Bangkok joined one assessment team in Isabela.

In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the IFRC's Asia Pacific zone office teams remain on standby to support Philippine Red Cross with additional technical support, emergency supplies and resources, if needed. Similarly, the ICRC delegation in the Philippines is also ready to provide support to PRC, including relief items and water and sanitation technical expertise.

## 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):
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  - Sandro Kushashvili, head of operations, email: [alexander.kushashvili@ifrc.org](mailto:alexander.kushashvili@ifrc.org);
  - Selvaratnam Sinnadurai, head of country office, email: [selvaratnam.sinnadurai@ifrc.org](mailto:selvaratnam.sinnadurai@ifrc.org);
- IFRC Asia Pacific zone office, Kuala Lumpur (phone: +60-3-9207-5700, fax +60-3-2161-0670):
  - Jagan Chapagain, head of operations; email: [jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org](mailto:jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org)
  - Heikki Väättämoinen, operations coordinator, email: [heikki.vaatamoinen@ifrc.org](mailto:heikki.vaatamoinen@ifrc.org)
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  - Please send all pledges of funding to [zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org](mailto:zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org)
  - Jeremy Francis, regional logistics coordinator; phone: +6012 298 9752; fax: +603 2168 8573; email: [jeremy.francis@ifrc.org](mailto:jeremy.francis@ifrc.org)

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

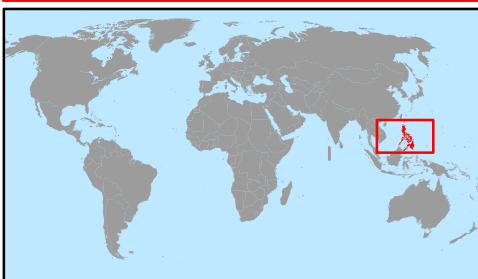
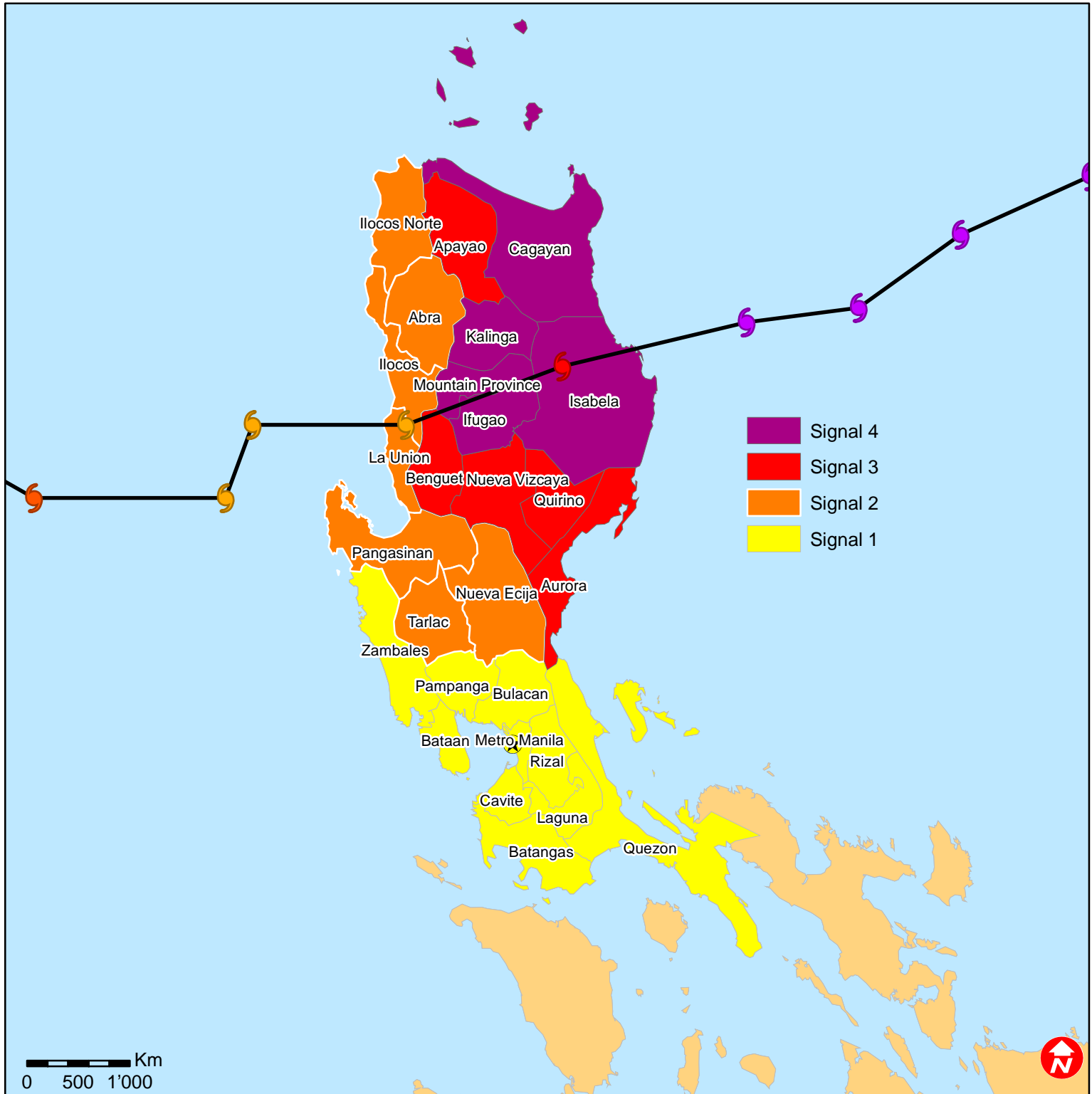
## MDRPH006 - PHILIPPINES TYPHOON MEGI

**DREF BUDGET SUMMARY**

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Shelter - Relief	23,800	23,800
Clothing & Textiles	54,000	54,000
Food	13,500	13,500
Water & Sanitation	10,000	10,000
Ustensils & Tools	9,000	9,000
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	60,990	60,990
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>171,290</b>	<b>171,290</b>
Storage	3,000	3,000
Distribution & Monitoring	3,000	3,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	6,000	6,000
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>12,000</b>
National Staff	5,200	5,200
National Society Staff	4,000	4,000
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>9,200</b>	<b>9,200</b>
Travel	4,000	4,000
Information & Public Relation	1,000	1,000
Office Costs	1,800	1,800
Communications	1,800	1,800
Financial Charges	500	500
Other General Expenses	152	152
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>9,252</b>	<b>9,252</b>
Program Support	13,113	13,113
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>13,113</b>	<b>13,113</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>214,855</b>	<b>214,855</b>



# The Philippines: Tropical Cyclone MEGI



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 - IB191010.mxd

- SUPER TYPHOON-5
- TYPHOON-4
- TYPHOON-3
- TYPHOON-2
- TYPHOON-1
- TROPICAL STORM
- TROPICAL DEPRESSION