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Emergency appeal operation update

Philippines: Typhoon Nesat

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency appeal n° MDRPH007
GLIDE n° TC-2011-000147-PHL and TC-2011-000149-PHL
Operation update n°1
11 October 2011

Period covered by this Operations

Update: 4 to 9 October 2011

Appeal target (current):

CHF 3,550,719

Appeal coverage: One pledge recorded thus far, although several are in the pipeline: Contributions are urgently needed to enable the Philippine Red Cross to meet the immediate needs of most vulnerable typhoon-affected families

[<click to go to donor response report, or link to contact details >](#)

Appeal history:

- This emergency appeal was launched on a preliminary basis on 4 October 2011 or CHF 3,550,719 for eight months to assist 50,000 families (250,000 people)
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 280,000 was allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) DREF to support the initial response of the national society.



Relief supplies are loaded for dispatch to affected areas. To date, Philippine Red Cross has distributed non-food packages to more than 2,000 families.
Photo: Pablo Reyes/IFRC

Summary: Some 12 days after Typhoons Nesat and Nalgae hit the Philippines, and five days after the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) launched a preliminary emergency appeal to support the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) in assisting 50,000 families (250,000 persons), the relief response has intensified. Drawing largely on the CHF 280,000 initially allocated from DREF, the national society has distributed food rations to 22,000 families and non-food materials to more than 2,000 families. Distributions continue, with additional supplies dispatched from the capital, Manila, for affected areas.

In the wake of the twin storms, Red Cross volunteers and staff equipped with amphibious vehicles, rubber boats, rescue trucks and ambulances, rescued more than 2,600 people trapped on rooftops or flooded buildings. Volunteers continue to man welfare desks set up in evacuation centres that are still operational, and have served ready-to-eat hot meals to some 21,000 people.

However, so far, funds are slow to come and one pledge has been recorded, with several in the pipeline. Considering that the massive flooding wrought by the two typhoons brought a corresponding flood of needs,

funding support from sister national societies and partners is greatly required to enable PRC to help the hardest-hit people restore their normal lives in the community.

The situation

As the Philippines readies itself for the third typhoon (local name: Ramon) in less than two weeks, expected to hit the Eastern Visayas and northeastern Mindanao regions in the early morning of 12 October, the country continues to respond to the impact of Typhoons Nesat and Nalgae. According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), the combined death toll from the both these powerful storms is reported at 102, with a further 103 injured and 27 missing. In all, some 4 million people have been affected, with more than 2.5 million of them in Central Luzon region.

Table 1: Effects of Typhoons Nesat and Nalgae - as of 10 October 2011 (Source: NDRRMC)

Details	Typhoon Nesat	Typhoon Nalgae	Total
Deaths	83	19	102
Injured	91	12	103
Missing	20	7	27
# of evacuation centres	78	74	152
# of persons in evacuation centres	28,054	35,982	64,036
Persons affected	# of families (persons)	# of families (persons)	Total # of families (persons)
Cordillera Administrative Region	8,129 (41,881)	901 (3,435)	9,030 (45,316)
Cagayan Valley (Region 2)	99,211 (417,138)	71,412 (403,307)	170,623 (820,445)
Central Luzon (Region 3)	452,359 (2,124,002)	101,667 (441,680)	554,026 (2,565,682)
Other regions	92,190 (447,734)	46,236 (240,623)	138,426 (688,357)
Total # of affected persons	651,889 (3,030,755)	220,216 (1,089,045)	872,105 (4,119,800)
Totally damaged houses	7,212	2,846	10,058
Partially damaged houses	46,075	15,385	61,460
Total # of damaged houses	53,287	18,231	71,518

The combined effects of the typhoons have left large areas of Bulacan, Nueva Ecija and Pampanga submerged. Although floodwater is subsiding and access has been gradually restored, in some areas, it could take days, if not weeks, for the floodwater to recede. Displaced persons who had sought safer shelter in evacuations centres are moving out as floodwater subsides. Currently, some 64,000 persons remain in 152 evacuation centres that are still operational, down from 274,000 in 692 evacuation centres at the peak period.

The authorities have estimated that the total cost of damage wrought by typhoons Nesat and Nalgae is PHP 15 billion (CHF 320 million), exceeding that caused by Typhoon Ketsana in late 2009. Agriculture and infrastructure have been severely impacted, and more than 71,500 houses damaged or destroyed. In the hardest-hit province of Bulacan, residents say the current flooding is the worst they have experienced in decades. Over the weekend, some road sections in the province remained impassable to light vehicles because of waist-high floodwater. Parts of Pampanga also remain covered with waist-high floodwater.

The Department of Health (DOH) has expressed concerns about potential outbreaks of diseases owing to massive dumping of trash and human waste by residents, creating 'a sea of microbes'. In addition, the leptospirosis task force has warned against the expected rise in leptospirosis cases and stressed the need for people in flooded areas to dispose of garbage properly to minimize the spread of rats whose urine primarily carries the leptospirosis bacteria.

Coordination and partnerships

Movement coordination: Red Cross Red Crescent partners continue to hold coordination and ad hoc meetings to discuss the latest developments. The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) has consistently briefed IFRC and Australian Red Cross, German Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, and The Netherlands Red Cross representatives in Manila. IFRC, German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross representatives have also held preliminary discussions to plan and coordinate potential proposals, with a view of avoiding duplication.

Coordinating with authorities: PRC maintains a long-standing and strong relationship with government bodies through participation or collaboration with the following: (i) the NDRRMC; (ii) local disaster risk reduction and management councils; and (iii) local government units. PRC is participating in NDRRMC meetings as well as

coordinating with the department of social welfare and development (DSWD), department of health (DOH), and disaster risk reduction and management councils at the provincial, municipal and barangay levels. The PRC secretary general made a presentation at the NDRRMC during a session chaired by the Philippine president.

Inter-agency coordination: Since the successive typhoons struck while another IFRC-supported operation is ongoing, the coordination mechanisms already in place have been maintained. PRC and IFRC have participated in the humanitarian country team (HCT) meetings, with the secretary general making a presentation to the HCT on Wednesday, 5 October. The IFRC country office has kept the European Commission’s humanitarian aid and civil protection (ECHO) programme officer for Philippines updated on Red Cross action. The officer also joined the PRC assessment team deployed to Bulacan and Pampanga for fact-finding.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview



Over the weekend, a Philippine Red Cross water truck was used to distribute clean, drinking water to residents of Calumpit, Bulacan.
Photo: Pablo Reyes/IFRC

PRC has been active since before Typhoon Nesat made landfall. As it approached, the organization issued a series of advisories and early warnings to its chapters. Once the storm hit, PRC activated specialized response units that managed to ferry more than 2,500 people to evacuation shelters and water search-and-rescue teams that took around 2,600 trapped persons to safety. PRC also acted swiftly to rescue those affected by Typhoon Nalgae, which followed days after Nesat. In total, more than 2,300 Red Cross volunteers and 200 staff have been involved in the days since Nesat and Nalgae struck. They have served more than 21,000 evacuees with ready-to-eat meals, and are manning welfare desks and providing psychosocial support in evacuation centres. Additionally, food rations for

22,000 families and non-food materials for more than 2,000 families have been distributed to date.. Further distributions are continuing, with additional supplies dispatched from the capital, Manila, for affected areas.

To get a clear picture of the needs on the ground, PRC deployed five multi-sectoral assessment teams on Wednesday, 5 October; one team headed to Aurora, the second to Bulacan and Pampanga, the third to Ifugao, the fourth to Nueva Ecija and the fifth to Isabela and Quirino. The teams undertook assessments in the most affected provinces. They have since completed this necessary groundwork and are currently consolidating their reports. Assessment findings will inform the adjustment of this operation’s plan later this week, with the number of people to be assisted, financial needs and timeframe likely to increase.

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food items)

Outcome: Emergency food needs of 50,000 typhoon-affected families in three regions are met through provision of appropriate food items in adequate quantities and quality within three months.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The immediate food needs of 50,000 typhoon displaced families and host families are met through one-off food distributions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a beneficiary focusing strategy and distribution protocols. Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on distribution protocols. Identify, register and verify beneficiaries.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize validated beneficiaries for food distributions. • Arrange pre- and post-relief distribution volunteer meetings. • Provide food (rice, noodles and sardines) to 50,000 families (250,000 persons). • Conduct post-distribution surveys. • Monitor and report on distributions.
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Progress: To date, PRC has distributed food packages to some 22,000 families (approximately 110,000 persons). The distributions include IFRC-provided food packages, which comprise 5kg of rice, four packets of noodles and four cans of sardines. Among the areas reached are Aurora (770 families), Bulacan (5,410 families), Ifugao (280 families), Isabela (1,020 families), Nueva Ecija (3,450 families), Pampanga (3,840 families), Pangasinan (1,430 families), Quirino (2,560 families) and Tarlac (1,650 families). Food distributions are ongoing, drawing largely from funds advanced from DREF.

Relief distributions (non-food items)

Outcome: The status of 20,000 affected families in three regions improved through timely provision of appropriate non-food items within 4 months.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The immediate needs of 20,000 typhoon-affected families are met through distributions of non-food items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system. • Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on distribution protocols. • Register and verify beneficiaries. • Mobilize validated beneficiaries for distributions. • Arrange pre- and post- distribution volunteer meetings. • Distribute blankets (two per family), sleeping mats (two per family) and to 20,000 families (100,000 persons). • Provide jerry cans (one 20-litre per household or two 10-litre per household) for household-level water storage, to 20,000 families (100,000 persons). • Track movement of items from point of dispatch to end-user. • Undertake real-time needs/capacity assessments to identify gaps. • Monitor and report on distributions.

Progress: PRC has distributed non-food packages to some 2,200 families (approximately 11,000 persons), including in Bulacan (290 families), Ifugao (115 families), Navotas (800 families), Pangasinan (730 families), Quirino (10 families). In total, IFRC-provided non-food packages (each composed of one 20-litre jerry can, two blankets and two sleeping mats) for 6,500 families, dispatched on Friday, 7 October 2011 from the national headquarters to affected chapters. NFI distributions are ongoing.

Challenges encountered

In the past week, distribution of food and relief items in parts of Bulacan, Pampanga and Ifugao was constrained by access challenges. Access has been restored to areas that were earlier isolated due to floods, landslides, or damaged road sections, and Red Cross relief operations are expected to reach more affected families in coming weeks.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risk of waterborne and water-related diseases has been reduced through the provision of safe water supply, sanitation and hygiene promotion to 20,000 families (100,000 persons) in three regions.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Basic water, sanitation and hygiene promotion needs of affected families identified to enable design of appropriate solutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the basic water, sanitation and hygiene promotion needs and likelihood of water and sanitation-related diseases. • Survey the availability of safe drinking water for people sheltered in evacuation centres. • Coordinate with the WASH cluster.
Safe water is provided to affected families in evacuation centres as floodwater subsides and damaged systems are restored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide potable water storage tanks and tap stands [flexible tanks as bladders] at targeted evacuation centres as per needs. • Monitor and report on activities.
Appropriate household sanitation facilities provided to 1,000 families assisted with transitional shelter in three regions for eight months.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support construction of pour-flush latrines and septic tanks as integral components of transitional shelters. • Ensure that construction of pour-flush latrines takes into account unique needs of people with disabilities, where required. • Provide sanitation kits comprising a 20-litre jerry can, a 60-litre water container, a dipper and a toilet brush (one per targeted family) to families assisted with transitional shelters. • Monitor and report on activities.
Basic hygiene practices among 20,000 families improved through behaviour change and hygiene promotion activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize existing trained community health volunteers. • Undertake baseline surveys to determine the level of awareness of water related illnesses and hygiene practices in targeted communities Mobilize community members for hygiene promotions sessions. • Distribute information, education and communication (IEC) materials to 20,000 families (100,000 people) in the target communities. • Disseminate relevant hygiene and health messages to 20,000 families (100,000 people) in the target communities. • Undertake final surveys to determine level of improvement in awareness and practices. • Monitor and report on activities.
The scope and quality of the Philippine Red Cross hygiene promotion services are improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit and train community health volunteers. • Produce IEC materials relevant for hygiene promotion.

Progress: PRC chapters undertook a rapid survey of the safe drinking water situation of people in evacuation centres. Subsequently, the national society deployed a water truck to Calumpit municipality, Bulacan, and over the weekend, distributed clean drinking water for beneficiaries to store in the jerry cans provided as part of the non-food package. Distribution of jerry cans was accompanied with basic hygiene and health promotion sessions organized by volunteer nurses and community health volunteers.

Challenges encountered

Structured hygiene promotion sessions are yet to be organized. These will be organized once the plan of action is adjusted based on assessment findings. Assessment teams included persons from water and sanitation and health sectors, who looked at the basic water, sanitation and hygiene promotion needs as well as the likelihood of water and sanitation-related diseases.

Early recovery: Shelter

Outcome: Some 6,000 typhoon-affected households in three regions have safer shelter solutions through the provision of locally appropriate materials, tools and guidance on improved building techniques within eight months.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<p>5,000 families have refurbished or restored their houses that were damaged as a result of the typhoons.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the extent of the shelter needs and shelter solutions preferred by typhoon-affected communities. • Conduct orientation of volunteers to be involved in the shelter project. • Select beneficiaries from lists provided by DSWD. • Undertake door-to-door surveys to validate beneficiaries. • Provide volunteers with training that promotes an understanding of typhoon-resilient construction. • Conduct orientation of beneficiaries (by chapter volunteers). • Using relevant methodologies, e.g. distribution of materials, tools, cash etc, provide adequate and appropriate shelter repair solutions to 5,000 families whose houses were partially damaged by the typhoons. • Coordinate with the emergency shelter cluster, if activated. • Monitor and report on activities.
<p>1,000 families, whose houses were totally destroyed as a result of the typhoons, have rebuilt, applying resilient techniques.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the extent of the shelter needs and shelter solutions preferred by typhoon-affected communities. • Conduct advocacy for access to appropriate land sites. • Conduct orientation of volunteers to be involved in shelter project. • Select beneficiaries from lists provided by DSWD. • Undertake door-to-door surveys to validate beneficiaries. • Provide carpenters and project volunteers with training that promotes awareness and understanding of typhoon resilient construction. • Conduct orientation of beneficiaries (by project volunteers). • Construct model houses in select localities within operational areas. • Provide appropriate transitional shelter materials and tools to 1,000 families whose houses were destroyed. • Promote safer typhoon-resilient shelter, where possible, by providing technical assistance and guidance. • Ensure shelter programming includes access to required water and sanitation services and linked livelihoods grants. • Ensure shelter programming takes into account unique needs of people with disabilities, where required. • Promote increased awareness and understanding of shelter response programming with the National Society and affected communities. • Coordinate with the emergency shelter cluster, if activated. • Monitor and report on activities.

Progress: Assessments have been conducted and planning of activities will be done in the coming days.

Early recovery: Livelihoods

Outcome: Coping mechanisms of 1,000 typhoon-affected families improved through enhanced livelihoods opportunities.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Families assisted with transitional shelter are able to re-establish basic means of household income and to increase livelihoods opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult targeted households on their preferred livelihoods solutions. • Organize orientation sessions for targeted households on the scope of livelihoods assistance to be provided under the operation. • Provide targeted households with application forms for livelihood assistance. • Review application forms for livelihood assistance submitted by beneficiaries. • Using relevant methodologies, e.g. cash grants, provide livelihoods assistance to 1,000 families whose houses were destroyed. • Monitor and report on activities.

Progress: Assessments have been conducted and planning of activities will be done in the coming days.

National society disaster preparedness and capacity building

Outcome: The disaster preparedness and response capacity of PRC national headquarters and two chapters in affected regions strengthened.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
PRC national headquarters and two chapters in operational areas have improved their disaster response capacities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train and equip two land and water search-and-rescue teams. • Equip one PRC chapter with a land cruiser, geared for flood situations • Support two PRC chapters in improving on their volunteer management structures. • Provide technical materials and technical support to PRC national headquarters and chapters targeted by operation. • Conduct on-the-job training in logistics core areas (procurement, warehousing, and transport and fleet management) for PRC staff and volunteers at national headquarters and targeted chapters. • Assist PRC in their training activities by providing delegates as facilitators based on their expertise. • Identify and map the overall and essential preparedness gaps in capacities and resources.

Progress: Chapters in affected provinces have mobilized volunteers, some of them new, to assist with serving persons in evacuation centres and relief distributions. The volunteers received basic induction prior to getting involved in the operations.

Logistics

The IFRC's in-country logistics team – which comprises one logistics delegate and two logistics officers – has facilitated the immediate release of pre-positioned stocks and assisted in organizing transportation of items. The team has also supported local mobilization of goods, i.e. 7,500 jerry cans, 15,000 blankets and 15,000 sleeping mats to replenish released stocks. The team is also supporting the operation with regard to fleet management, procurement, and warehousing.

A press release was sent out to international media the same day as the preliminary emergency appeal was launched, and to local media as well by PRC, with some adjustments. Several local and international news sources mentioned the launch. A story titled '[Support needed as Philippine Red Cross steps up typhoon relief operations](#)' was issued on www.ifrc.org, with more content in the pipeline. Over the weekend, the in-country communications team undertook field visits alongside a professional photographer and a video cameraman, with the view of obtaining images and footage for sharing with partners. These materials are currently being prepared and will be shared shortly.

Contact information

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

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