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## Operations 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°2**  
**21 October 2011**

**Period covered by this Operations Update:**  
10 to 19 October 2011

**Appeal target (current):**  
CHF 3,550,719

**Appeal coverage:** To date, coverage is 13.7 per cent, including funding in the pipeline. Further contributions are urgently needed to enable 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 for 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.



This 8-year-old heads home after receiving a food package from the Philippine Red Cross in San Luis Municipality, Pampanga. To date, PRC has distributed food rations, composed of 5 kg rice, 4 packets of noodles and 4 cans of sardines, to 41,000 families. (Photo: Pablo Reyes/IFRC)

**Summary:** As of 11 October 2011, the national disaster risk reduction and management council (NDRRMC) reports that back-to-back typhoons Nesat and Nalgae killed 101 people, leaving 103 injured and 27 missing. In addition, government reports that 10,061 houses have been destroyed and 61,523 others damaged while more than 4 million people (approximately 870,000 families) have been affected.

In the immediate aftermath of the two typhoons, Philippine Red Cross (PRC) responded swiftly by sending out staff and volunteers who rescued nearly 3,000 people trapped on the roofs of their houses and flooded establishments using rubber boats and amphibious vehicles.

PRC chapters conducted rapid surveys in affected areas and identified priority, urgent needs of affected communities. The rapid survey indicated that displaced families in evacuation centres, staying with relatives or host with families, needed immediate food assistance as well as essential non-food items. In this regard, PRC undertook to provide two-day rations of food [rice, noodles and sardines] and non-food items [blankets, sleeping mats and jerry cans] to the most vulnerable displaced families. In addition, PRC also determined that it was necessary to distribute drinking water in two municipalities of Bulacan.

To date, funds are slow to come, though several are currently in the pipeline. 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

Back-to-back Typhoons Nesat and Nalgae struck the Philippines on 27 September and 1 October, respectively. These have mainly affected the northern and central regions of Luzon. As of 11 October 2011, the national disaster risk reduction and management council (NDRRMC) reports that the two typhoons killed 101 people, leaving 103 injured and 27 missing. In addition, government reports that 10,061 houses have been destroyed and 61,523 others damaged while more than 4 million people (approximately 870,000 families) have been affected.

Authorities have estimated that the total cost of damage left by the twin disasters has amounted to PHP 15 billion (EUR 252 million), surpassing that of Ketsana in 2009 - severely impacting the agriculture and infrastructure sector. Portions of Bulacan, Ifugao and Pampanga remain submerged in floodwaters two weeks after the typhoon struck. However, as of 17 October, flood has not yet completely receded in six municipalities in Pampanga.

**Table 1: Effects of typhoons Nesat and Nalgae - as of 12 October 2011 (Source: NDRRMC)**

Details	Typhoon Nesat	Typhoon Nalgae	Total
Deaths	83	18	101
Injured	91	12	103
Missing	20	7	27
# of evacuation centres	64	74	138
# of persons in evacuation centres	25,403	35,982	61,385
<b>Persons affected</b>	<b># of families (persons)</b>	<b># of families (persons)</b>	<b>Total # of families (persons)</b>
Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)	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)	108,071 (466,398)	560,430 (2,590,400)
Other regions (28 provinces)	92,190 (447,734)	46,236 (240,623)	138,426 (688,357)
<b>Total # of affected persons</b>	<b>651,889 (3,030,755)</b>	<b>226,620 (1,113,763)</b>	<b>878,509 (4,144,518)</b>
Totally damaged houses	7,213	2,848	10,061
Partially damaged houses	46,130	15,393	61,523
<b>Total # of damaged houses</b>	<b>53,343</b>	<b>18,241</b>	<b>71,584</b>

As areas affected by Typhoons Nesat and Nalgae set out on the road to recovery, a new storm – Tropical Depression Banyan (local name: Ramon) – crossed the central islands on Wednesday, 12 October, leaving 10 people dead, and affecting 15,600 families (62,700 people) in 158 villages across eight cities and 11 provinces. Tropical Depression Banyan brought rains and flooding, mostly in Visayas and Mindanao islands. Central and Northern Luzon were spared its full force. However, the national weather bureau has advised that heavy rains brought by La Niña could last into 2012, including in Central and Northern Luzon. Furthermore, the risk remains of new storms hitting in the near future. Therefore, while the worst seems over for now, potential fresh rains and new storms will further weaken the coping mechanisms of people who have been hard hit already.

## Coordination and partnerships

**Movement coordination:** Red Cross Red Crescent partners continue to hold coordination and ad hoc meetings to discuss the latest developments. Philippine Red Cross (PRC) has consistently briefed IFRC and Australian Red Cross, German Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross and Spanish 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 (LGUs). 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

PRC works in coordination with the local authorities and monitors the development of the situation throughout the affected areas with the help of its local chapters and incoming reports from volunteers through the Red Cross 143 programme.

As of this reporting period, relief operations continue especially in hardest-hit areas in Central and Northern Luzon. PRC has provided food items comprising rice, noodles and sardines to some 41,000 families. IFRC, on its part, has dispatched a total of 28,000 blankets, 14,000 jerry cans and 28,000 sleeping mats for ongoing distribution to families in affected areas including Aurora, Bulacan, Ifugao, Isabela, Navotas, Nueva Ecija, Pangasinan and Quirino.

Detailed assessments from the teams deployed on the ground to get a clear picture of the needs will be issued in the next update.



A woman receives sleeping mats, blankets and a jerry can from Philippine Red Cross in Calumpit Municipality, Bulacan, as other residents wait in the queue. Drawing largely on the CHF 280,000 initially allocated from DREF, the national society has distributed non-food materials to more than 10,300 families. (Photo: Pablo Reyes/IFRC)

### Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food items)	
<b>Outcome:</b> 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"> <li>• Establish a beneficiary focusing strategy and distribution protocols.</li> <li>• Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on distribution protocols.</li> <li>• Identify, register and verify beneficiaries.</li> <li>• Mobilize validated beneficiaries for food distributions.</li> <li>• Arrange pre- and post-relief distribution volunteer meetings.</li> <li>• Provide food (rice, noodles and sardines) to 50,000 families (250,000 persons).</li> <li>• Conduct post-distribution surveys.</li> <li>• Monitor and report on distributions.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** In all, PRC has distributed food packages to some 41,400 families (approximately 190,000 persons). The distributions include IFRC-provided food packages, which comprise 5kg of rice, four packets of noodles and four cans of sardines. Some of the food packages were dispatched from stocks that existed at PRC’s national headquarters while others were procured at the chapter level. Among the areas reached are Aurora (1,819 families), Bulacan (9,121 families), Cagayan (728), Ifugao (1,747 families), Isabela (2,423 families), Nueva Ecija (7,319 families), Pampanga (6,764 families), Pangasinan (4,001 families), Quirino (4,411 families) and Tarlac

(1,708 families). Of these, 25,000 received food packages through IFRC support. Food distributions are ongoing, drawing largely from funds advanced from DREF.

Table 2. Food items distributed by PRC through IFRC and other donor support

Province	Food (families)
Aurora	2,622
Bulacan	7,160
Cagayan	719
Ifugao	1,648
Isabela	2,164
Nueva Ecija	7,984
Pampanga	2,800
Pangasinan	1,500
Quirino	3,904
Tarlac	1,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,201</b>

**Challenges:** Continuous rains pouring over Central and Northern Luzon for two weeks after Typhoons Nesat and Nalgae lashed the regions, resulted in prolonged flooding, thus affected the distribution of food packages. Some areas remain submerged in floodwater, making them inaccessible, as well as beneficiaries failing to come to the distribution points. As soon as the rains eased, distribution continued.

#### 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"> <li>Develop a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system.</li> <li>Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on distribution protocols.</li> <li>Register and verify beneficiaries.</li> <li>Mobilize validated beneficiaries for distributions.</li> <li>Arrange pre- and post- distribution volunteer meetings.</li> <li>Distribute blankets (two per family), sleeping mats (two per family) and to 20,000 families (100,000 persons).</li> <li>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).</li> <li>Track movement of items from point of dispatch to end-user.</li> <li>Undertake real-time needs/capacity assessments to identify gaps.</li> <li>Monitor and report on distributions.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** PRC has distributed non-food packages to some 10,300 families (approximately 46,800 persons), including in Bulacan (3,290 families), Ifugao (180 families), Navotas (1,000 families), Pangasinan (2,000 families), Quirino (1,450 families). NFI distributions are ongoing with additional 14,000 non-food items dispatched from Manila.

Table 2. Non-food items provided by IFRC in support to PRC's relief distribution

Province	Blankets (2 per family)	Jerry cans 20L (1 per family)	Sleeping mats (2 per family)
Aurora	2,000	2,000	1,000
Bulacan	8,400	8,400	4,200
Ifugao	1,000	1,000	500
Isabela	2,000	2,000	1,000

Navotas	2,000	2,000	1,000
Nueva Ecija	5,000	5,000	2,500
Pangasinan	2,000	2,000	1,000
Quirino	5,600	5,600	2,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,000</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>28,000</b>

**Challenges:** Portions of Bulacan remain submerged in floodwater two weeks after Typhoons Nesat and Nalgae struck. In addition, Ifugao was isolated due to continuous rains in the province that resulted in floods and landslides in the mountainous province. Distribution of non-food items resumed as soon as the rains stopped.

### 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"> <li>Assess the basic water, sanitation and hygiene promotion needs and likelihood of water and sanitation-related diseases.</li> <li>Survey the availability of safe drinking water for people sheltered in evacuation centres.</li> <li>Coordinate with the WASH cluster.</li> </ul>
Safe water is provided to affected families in evacuation centres as floodwater subsides and damaged systems are restored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide potable water storage tanks and tap stands [flexible tanks as bladders ] at targeted evacuation centres as per needs.</li> <li>Monitor and report on activities.</li> </ul>
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"> <li>Support construction of pour-flush latrines and septic tanks as integral components of transitional shelters.</li> <li>Ensure that construction of pour-flush latrines takes into account unique needs of people with disabilities, where required.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>Monitor and report on activities.</li> </ul>
Basic hygiene practices among 20,000 families improved through behaviour change and hygiene promotion activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mobilize existing trained community health volunteers.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>Distribute information, education and communication (IEC) materials to 20,000 families (100,000 people) in the target communities.</li> <li>Disseminate relevant hygiene and health messages to 20,000 families (100,000 people) in the target communities.</li> <li>Undertake final surveys to determine level of improvement in awareness and practices.</li> <li>Monitor and report on activities.</li> </ul>
The scope and quality of Philippine Red Cross hygiene promotion services are improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruit and train community health volunteers.</li> <li>Produce IEC materials relevant for hygiene promotion.</li> </ul>

**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 on 8

October, 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.

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

**Progress:** More detailed assessments are ongoing for planning of activities in the coming days, and further discussions are being held to evaluate actions to be taken under this appeal.

### 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"> <li>• Consult targeted households on their preferred livelihoods solutions.</li> <li>• Organize orientation sessions for targeted households on the scope of livelihoods assistance to be provided under the operation.</li> <li>• Provide targeted households with application forms for livelihood assistance.</li> <li>• Review application forms for livelihood assistance submitted by beneficiaries.</li> <li>• Using relevant methodologies, e.g. cash grants, provide livelihoods assistance to 1,000 families whose houses were destroyed.</li> <li>• Monitor and report on activities.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** More detailed assessments are ongoing for planning of activities 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"> <li>• Train and equip two land and water search-and-rescue teams.</li> <li>• Equip one PRC chapter with a land cruiser, geared for flood situations</li> <li>• Support two PRC chapters in improving on their volunteer management structures.</li> <li>• Provide technical materials and technical support to PRC national headquarters and chapters targeted by operation.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Assist PRC in their training activities by providing delegates as facilitators based on their expertise.</li> <li>• Identify and map the overall and essential preparedness gaps in capacities and resources.</li> </ul>

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

### Logistics

PRC and IFRC logistics teams have facilitated the immediate release of pre-positioned stocks and assisted in organizing transportation of items. The teams have also supported local mobilization of goods, i.e. 14,000 jerry cans, 28,000 blankets and 28,000 sleeping mats to replenish released stocks. The teams are also supporting the operation with regard to fleet management, procurement, and warehousing.

### Communications – advocacy and public information

A press release was sent out to international media on the same day as the preliminary emergency appeal was launched, and to local media as well by PRC, with some customization. Several local and international news

sources provided media coverage on the emergency appeal. A web story titled '[Support needed as Philippine Red Cross steps up typhoon relief operations](#)' was posted on [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org), with more content in the pipeline. A [diary piece](#) by a member of the communications team on her visit to the affected areas was published. In addition, a B-roll showing the damage caused by the typhoon and an interview calling for quick response is also available at the [IFRC Video Newsroom](#).

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## Contact information

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