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Emergency appeal operation update Philippines: Typhoons

 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° 3
15 November 2011

Period covered by this Operations

Update: 20 October to 11 November 2011

Appeal target (current):

CHF 4,114,366

Appeal coverage: The appeal is covered up to 41 per cent, including those 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:

- A [revised emergency appeal](#) was launched on 10 November 2011, seeking CHF 4,114,366 in cash, kind, or services to support Philippine Red Cross to assist 25,000 families (125,000 persons) for 12 months.
- 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.

Summary: Two months after back-to-back typhoons Nesat and Nalgae struck the Philippines, relief operations intensified. Food and non-food items distribution was scaled up in order to meet the pressing everyday needs of the affected population as a result of these devastating twin disasters.

The national disaster risk reduction and management council (NDRRMC) reports that the number of people affected by these typhoons is more than four million (approximately 880,000 families); these typhoons also left 101 people dead, 103 injured and 27 still missing. Additional figures reported that more than 10,000 houses were destroyed while some 61,000 others were damaged.

Philippine Red Cross (PRC) chapters in the most affected regions of Central and Northern Luzon distributed food items to more than 45,000 families, and non-food items to more than 15,000 families.



Staff and volunteers of Pampanga (Central Luzon) head to Macabebe municipality, one of the few remaining portions of the province which remain submerged in floodwater due to Typhoon Nesat, for relief distribution.
Photo: Martin Sarmiento/PRC

To date, partners who have contributed to this appeal include American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross Society, Netherlands Red Cross/Netherlands government, and Swedish Red Cross. Funding support continues to be greatly required to enable PRC to help the hardest-hit people restore their normal lives in the community

On behalf of PRC, IFRC would like to thank all partners and donors who have contributed to this appeal.

The situation

Two consecutive typhoons – Nesat and Nalgae – struck the Philippines on 27 September and 1 October respectively, bringing heavy rain which resulted in massive flooding and landslides in Central and Northern Luzon. According to NDRRMC, these twin disasters have affected more than four million people, equivalent to almost 880,000 families. In addition, they have left 101 people dead and 103 injured. Government figures also stated more than 10,000 houses destroyed and some 61,000 others damaged. As the battered population struggled to recover, tropical depression Banyan (locally known as Ramon) struck the islands of Visayas and Mindanao on 12 October, which enhanced monsoon rains on Luzon Island.

Table 1: The after-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
Areas affected	# of families (persons)	# of families (persons)	Total # of families (persons)
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)
Total number of affected persons	651,889 (3,030,755)	226,620 (1,113,763)	878,509 (4,144,518)
Totally damaged houses	7,213	2,848	10,061
Partially damaged houses	46,130	15,393	61,523
Total number of damaged houses	53,343	18,241	71,584

Two months after the two consecutive typhoons struck, parts of Macabebe municipality in Pampanga remain submerged in floodwater, making low-lying cemeteries almost inaccessible during the annual tradition of commemorating the departed on 1 November. In addition, the floodwater in some barangays of Calumpit municipality in Bulacan has not completely receded, with much-needed cleaning still ongoing. As of the reporting period, no other major storm has been recorded but the national weather bureau indicated that northeast monsoon will continue until the first quarter of 2012, associated with slightly cooler temperatures and strong to gale force winds affecting Northern and Central Luzon, which will surely weaken the coping mechanisms of the affected population.

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, 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. PRC participates in NDRRMC meetings as well as coordinates 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.

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. The IFRC country office has kept the European Commission’s humanitarian aid and civil protection (ECHO) programme officer for Philippines updated on Red Cross Red Crescent action.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview



PRC Pampanga chapter distributed food packages to residents of Candaba municipality. To date, PRC has provided food items to more than 44,000 families. Photo: Martin Sarmiento/PRC

Philippine Red Cross (PRC) swiftly responded as early as the typhoon struck. Apart from deploying staff and volunteers, amphibious vehicles and rescue trucks were utilized to rescue nearly 3,000 stranded people.

The PRC operations centre continues to distribute information bulletins in all its chapters concerned regarding the progress of the operation. Monitoring and coordination with local authorities are also maintained.

Food and non-food items distribution continuously intensified in the most affected regions of Central and Northern Luzon two months after the typhoons struck. A total of 45,000 families received food items while 15,000 others received non-food items.

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food items)

Outcome: Emergency food needs of 25,000 typhoon-affected families are met through provision of appropriate food items in adequate quantities and quality within three months.

Output (expected result)	Activities planned
<p>The immediate food needs of 25,000 typhoon-displaced families are met through one-off food distributions (two-day rations).</p>	<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. • Mobilize validated beneficiaries for food distributions. • Arrange pre- and post-relief distribution volunteer meetings. • Provide food (rice, noodles and sardines) to 25,000 families (125,000 persons). • Conduct post-distribution surveys. • Monitor and report on distributions.

Progress: As of this reporting period, PRC has distributed food items to more than 45,000 families (about 200,000 persons). Distributions covered the areas of Aurora (2,711 people), Bulacan (9,214), Cagayan (728), Cavite (174), Ifugao (1,873), Ilocos Sur (40), Isabela (5,478), Kalinga (12), Manila (250), Nueva Ecija (7,984), Nueva Vizcaya (147), Olongapo City (200), Pampanga (6,764), Pangasinan (2,014), Paranaque (70), Quirino (4,507), Tarlac (1,708) and Zambales (485). Of these, 25,000 families received food packages through IFRC support, drawing largely from funds advanced from DREF.

Table 2. Food items distributed by PRC through IFRC/DREF support

Province	Food (families)
Aurora	3,000
Bulacan	6,950
Cagayan	750
Ifugao	2,100
Isabela	2,500
Nueva Ecija	5,000
Pampanga	1,000
Quirino	2,000
Tarlac	1,700
Total	25,000

Challenges: Distribution of food items posed a challenge due to the lack of accessibility of main roads, affecting transportation of relief items. In Isabela province, Cordon and Dinapigue municipalities remain so isolated that even light vehicles cannot pass. In Quirino, a major bridge connecting Maddela and Nagtipunan municipalities remains damaged, forcing motorists to follow alternate routes. In Aurora, particularly in the north, some roads remain blocked due to the swelling of rivers and occurrence of landslides. In Nueva Ecija, relief distribution in Camgal municipality was put on hold due to several roads that remain closed. In Pampanga, portions of Macabebe municipality remain flooded. Relief distributions were re-scheduled and aimed to resume the soonest time possible.

Relief distributions (non-food items)

Outcome: The status of up to 20,000 typhoon-affected families is improved through provision of appropriate non-food items within four months.

Output (expected result)	Activities planned
The immediate needs of up to 20,000 typhoon-affected families that incurred losses or damage to household items are met through distribution 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) and sleeping mats (two per family) to 15,000 families (75,000 persons). • Provide jerry cans (1 per household for 20-litre or 2 per household for 10-litre) for household level water storage, to 15,000 families (100,000 persons) • Provide hygiene kits to 8,000 families (40,000 persons). • Provide 10,000 mosquito nets to 5,000 families. • 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 15,180 families (approximately 73,400 persons), including in Bulacan (4,650 families), Ifugao (380 families), Navotas (1,000 families), Pangasinan (1,050

families), Quirino (2,800 families). NFI distributions are ongoing with 14,000 non-food items distributed through IFRC support.

Challenges: Similar to the challenges encountered in food items, distribution of non-food packages was hampered by accessibility to some areas in Aurora, Isabela, Nueva Ecija, Quirino and Pampanga. Relief distributions were re-scheduled and aimed to resume the soonest time possible.

Health and hygiene promotion	
Outcome: The immediate health risks of 20,000 families (100,000 persons) are reduced through targeted health prevention and promotion activities for 12 months.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
20,000 typhoon-affected families have improved knowledge and practices essential for infectious disease prevention and health promotion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize existing trained community health volunteers. • Undertake surveys to determine baseline and endline levels of awareness and preventive/care practices on priority infectious diseases in communities impacted by typhoons and floods. • Mobilize community members for disease prevention, health and hygiene promotion. • Disseminate relevant disease prevention, health and hygiene messages to 20,000 families (100,000 people) in the target communities. • Distribute information, education and communication (IEC) materials to 20,000 families (100,000 people) in the target communities. • Promote proper disease prevention, health and hygiene practices among pupils in targeted schools. • Collaborate with relief and water and sanitation sectors in the conduct of disease prevention and health promotion activities integrated with relief item distributions, water trucking or latrine construction work. • Monitor and report on activities.
The scope and quality of the Philippines Red Cross disease prevention and health promotion services are improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit and train community health volunteers. • Produce IEC materials relevant for disease prevention, health and hygiene promotion. • Coordinate with national and local health authorities, ensuring activities are in line with priorities.

Water and sanitation	
Outcome: The risk of water and sanitation-related diseases in targeted communities (5,000 families) has been reduced through the provision of safe water supply and improved sanitation facilities in 12 months.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Safe water is provided to 5,000 affected families as damaged systems are restored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide safe drinking water (through trucking) in areas where restoration of safe water supply systems is likely to take time. • Identify families in need of emergency household water treatment and provide them with appropriate water purification solutions. • Provide guidance to families assisted with water purification solutions on the proper use of the same. • Collaborate with the relief sector in providing safe water storage containers and hygiene kits to targeted families. • Collaborate with the health promotion sector in highlighting the linkage between safe water handling and storage at household level and prevention of waterborne and water-related diseases. • Monitor and report on activities.

<p>Appropriate water and sanitation facilities provided to 1,000 families and for targeted typhoon-affected schools.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support construction of 1,000 pour-flush latrines and septic tanks as integral components of transitional shelters. • Ensure that the construction of pour-flush latrines takes into account unique needs of people with disabilities, where required. • Provide sanitation kits comprising a 60-litre water container, a dipper and a toilet brush (one per targeted family) to 1,000 families assisted with transitional shelters. • Rehabilitate water and sanitation facilities for targeted schools used as evacuation centres or affected by the typhoons. • Monitor and report on activities.
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Progress: At the onset of Typhoons Nesat and Nalgae, one of the urgent concerns was the sanitation and hygiene situation in the most affected areas of Central and Northern Luzon. Increase in the number of persons infected with water-borne diseases such as diarrhoea, and other skin diseases poses a threat especially in flooded areas. In response, PRC conducted hygiene promotion activities through community campaigns complemented by the distribution of hygiene kits and information, education and communication (IEC) materials as measures of reducing the spread of water-borne diseases in affected areas. A total of 142 community health volunteers (CHVs) have been mobilized and reached nearly 10,000 families through hygiene promotion sessions in Bulacan (1,390), La Union (87), Navotas (708), Pampanga (4,016), Pangasinan (3,354) and Zambales (93). Topics covered in the conduct of hygiene promotion activities included basic information, prevention and care of water- and vector-borne diseases, as well as personal hygiene, basic sanitation, and the treatment of household water for drinking. Among these families, 2,027 of them received hygiene kits. In addition, a total of 100 posters containing messages on proper hand-washing have been distributed equally in Bulacan and Pampanga.

Challenges: As the back-to-back typhoons have affected more than four million people, CHVs from the local chapters were not spared, making them unavailable to conduct hygiene promotion activities immediately, particularly in Pampanga and Pangasinan. In addition, there were no CHVs trained in Ifugao and Isabela. Necessary adjustments were made by the affected chapters, and hygiene promotion activities were conducted as soon as the CHVs became available.

Province	No. of families reached through hygiene promotion
Bulacan	1,390
La Union	87
Navotas	708
Pampanga	4,016
Pangasinan	3,354
Zambales	93
Total	9,648

Livelihoods

Outcome: Coping mechanisms of 5,000 typhoon-affected families are improved in 12 months through inputs for enhancing livelihoods opportunities and return to normalcy.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<p>Typhoon-affected families that incurred losses or damage to livelihoods and homes have accessed inputs that set the basis for pursuing self-reliance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize orientation sessions for targeted households on the scope of livelihoods assistance to be provided. • Provide targeted households with application forms for livelihood assistance for each to outline their preferred combination of solutions to a maximum of CHF 200 per family. • Consult targeted beneficiary families on their preferred livelihood solutions; review and endorse the livelihood assistance applications that they submit. • Cluster the 5,000 beneficiary families according to preferred solutions for ease of providing appropriate assistance.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide livelihood assistance (including farm inputs, seedlings, fingerlings, asset replacement and repair material) to 5,000 families through identified shops/suppliers. • Obtain invoices from shops/suppliers from which the targeted families obtain their livelihood inputs and process payments. • Monitor and report on activities.
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Progress: IFRC delegates focusing on relief and recovery are verifying the areas that will require intervention on livelihoods, based on results of assessments conducted by PRC. This is currently being conducted, so as to evaluate the real needs on the ground and to avoid duplication of actions carried out by other non-government organizations (NGOs) and local government units (LGUs).

Transitional shelter

Outcome: 900 typhoon-affected households have safer shelter solutions through the provision of locally appropriate materials, tools and guidance on improved building techniques within 12 months.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
900 families whose houses were destroyed as a result of the typhoons have rebuilt applying resilient techniques.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake detailed sector-specific assessments for shelter to inform prioritization by locality. • Assess the extent of the shelter needs and shelter solutions preferred by typhoon-affected communities in priority localities. • 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 900 families whose houses were destroyed. • Promote safer, typhoon resilient shelter, where possible, by providing technical assistance and guidance. • 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. • Monitor and report on activities.

Progress: IFRC delegates focusing on relief and recovery are verifying the areas that will require intervention on shelter, as per results of assessment conducted by PRC. This is currently conducted, so as to evaluate the real needs on the ground and to avoid duplication of actions carried out by other non-government organizations (NGOs) and local government units (LGUs).

National society disaster preparedness and capacity building

Outcome: The disaster preparedness and response capacity of PRC national headquarters and selected chapters in affected regions is strengthened within 12 months.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<p>PRC national headquarters and chapters in operational areas have improved their disaster response capacities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form, train and equip two land and water search-and-rescue teams. • Form and train 10 national/chapter disaster response teams. • Upgrade one warehouse for stocking of preparedness stocks. • 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 being actively involved in the operations.

Logistics

The PRC and IFRC logistics team have facilitated the immediate release of pre-positioned stocks and assisted in organizing transportation of items. The team has also supported local mobilization of goods, including 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.

Professional logistics support to the operation will be provided in accordance with the IFRC standards, procedures and processes. Activities will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Mobilizing relief items pre-positioned in IFRC's regional logistics unit in Kuala Lumpur for emergencies and ongoing operations.
- Coordinating within IFRC and PRC programme managers and the regional logistics unit (RLU) based in Kuala Lumpur for timely and cost-efficient sourcing option for items required in the operation.
- Coordinating mobilization of goods and reception of incoming shipments.
- Utilizing existing warehousing facilities and vehicles for storage and efficient dispatch of goods to the final distribution points.
- Supporting PRC in securing adequate storage solutions.
- Ensuring that local procurement of goods, services and transport is in line with IFRC procurement standards and procedures.
- Liaising and coordinating actions with other key actors so that the IFRC logistics operation processes use all information to be as efficient and effective as possible.

The PRC and IFRC are encouraging the local procurement of relief items to respond to needs in the field. As such, donors should coordinate with the RLU regarding outstanding needs. The RLU will coordinate with the country team as regards gaps to be covered. Thus far, relief distributions have drawn largely from the DREF advance and pre-positioned stocks.

Communications – Advocacy and public information

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. A [diary piece](#) from a member of the communications team was published in line with the field visit conducted in Bulacan and Pampanga. In addition, a B-roll showing the damage and call for response on the operation is also available at the [IFRC video newsroom](#).

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for fundraising, advocacy and maintaining the profile of emergency operations. A steady flow of timely and accurate information will be maintained between those working in the field and other stakeholders, including the media and donors, to promote greater quality, accountability, and transparency.

Communications support to this operation will ensure that needs, achievements and challenges are profiled to enhance funding, other support, accountability and to provide a platform for advocating in the interests of typhoon-affected populations. Donors and national societies will receive information and materials they can use to promote the operation. Relevant information and publicity materials will be channelled through IFRC's public website, www.ifrc.org, as well as PRC's website, www.redcross.org.ph.

Activities will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Producing press releases, news stories and beneficiary case studies.
- Proactive engagement with media (international based in the Philippines and around the world) to highlight the needs of the storm-affected and to profile the response of the Red Cross. This will include the use of established IFRC social media tools.
- Developing packages and audiovisual products for distribution to partner national societies, partner organizations and media.
- Developing and producing communications products that highlight achievements of the operation.
- Supporting field visits by colleagues from partner national societies and donor agencies.
- Supporting programme teams in designing and producing project-specific materials, including forms, banners, pamphlets, brochures, posters and signage.

Supporting programme teams to ensure consistent and two-way engagement with beneficiaries is part of the IFRC's commitment to greater accountability to affected communities.

Contact information

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

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Please send all pledges of funding to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org



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