

# Information bulletin

## Philippines: Typhoon Noul

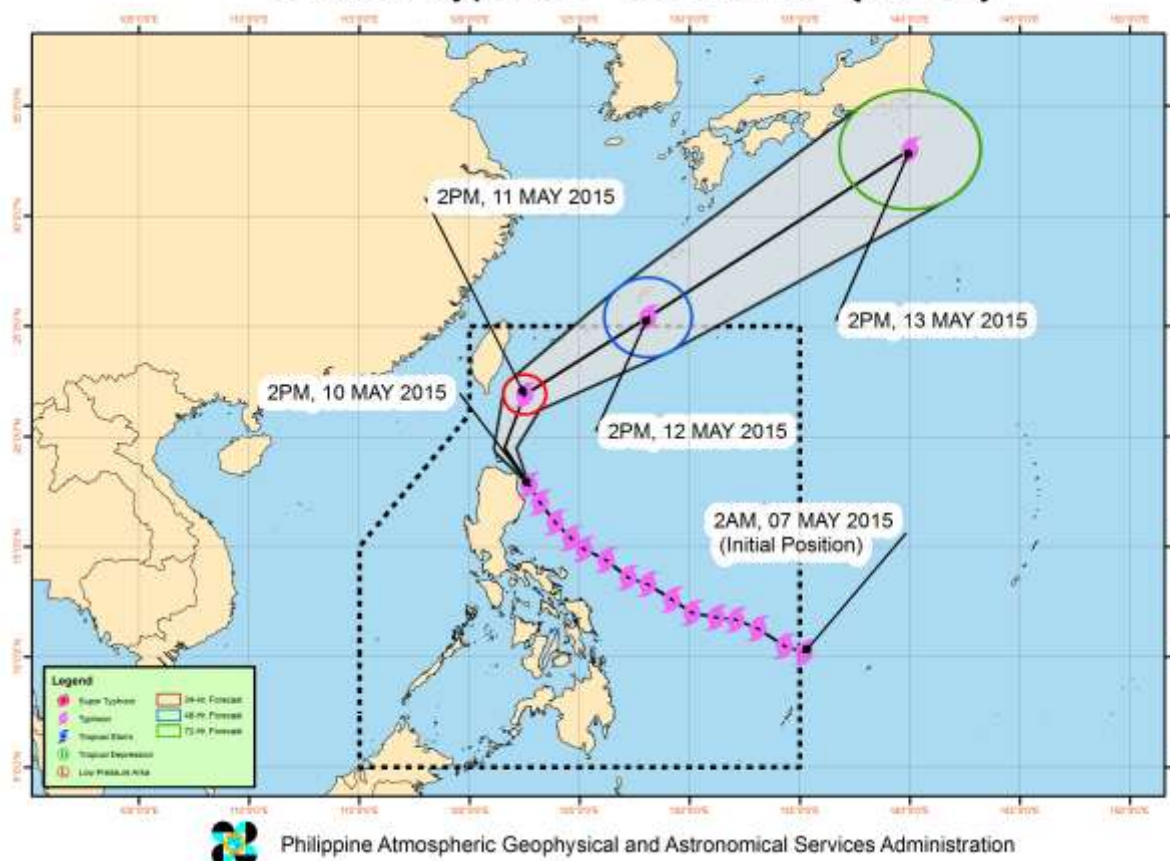
### Information Bulletin n° 1 GLIDE n° 1 [TC-2015-000051-PHL](#) 10 May 2015

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) has placed its disaster response teams on standby for rapid deployment and preparedness stocks ready for dispatch to areas where they may be needed but is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors at this time.

## The situation

Typhoon Noul (locally known as Dodong) skirted the north-eastern tip of Luzon Island, Philippines, after making landfall over Pananapan Point, Santa Ana Municipality, in the province of Cagayan late afternoon Sunday 10 May 2015. The affected municipality has a population of some 30,500 people and is an economic and tourism destination of the province. According to the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), the state weather bureau, at the time of landfall, the typhoon was packing maximum sustained winds of 185 kilometres per hour (kph) near its centre and gusts of up to 220 kph – equivalent of a Category 4 cyclone – and moving at a speed of about 20 kph.

### Track of Typhoon "DODONG" {NOUL}



Though Typhoon Noul is projected to weaken as it takes a north-northeast curve, and heads towards Taiwan and Japan, it will bring heavy to intense rainfall within its 100 kilometre diameter. Details on the exact impact of the typhoon, in the area where it made landfall, will emerge starting Monday morning, 11 May 2015. Nevertheless, some level of damage to houses, infrastructure and livelihoods can be expected. It is important to note that the authorities had enacted preparedness measures well in advance of the approaching typhoon, and residents in coastal towns and areas prone to flooding in Aurora, Cagayan and Isabela provinces had been alerted against possible storm surges, floods and landslides, with pre-emptive evacuations of more than 3,600 people conducted in high-risk areas of Cagayan and Isabela provinces.

Public storm warning signals (PSWS) were raised for several provinces. North-eastern Cagayan, Batanes, Babuyan and Calayan Group of Islands are under PSWS # 4 – the highest public storm warning signal. The rest of Cagayan Provinces as well as the provinces of Apayao and Isabela are under PSWS # 3 while Abra, Ifugao, Ilocos Norte, Kalinga, Mt. Province and northern Aurora are under PSWS # 2. For details on the various storm warning signals refer to PAGASA's [tropical cyclone update](#).

### **Action by the authorities**

The authorities, through the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), initiated preparedness measures as soon as Typhoon Noul entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) in the morning of Thursday, 7 May 2015. NDRRMC undertook a pre-disaster risk assessment (PDRA) and instructed all regional, provincial and local disaster risk reduction and management councils (DRRMCs) in areas along the typhoon's projected path to activate preparedness and response measures.

Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) activated the government-led response clusters, particularly those for search, rescue and retrieval, camp coordination and management, emergency telecommunications, logistics, health, and food and non-food relief. The authorities also pre-positioned food packs, drugs, medicines and other supplies in areas projected to be affected, contingency funds were transferred to regions projected to be affected and response personnel were placed on standby, ready to be deployed. The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) activated its humanitarian assistance disaster response units and placed logistics assets on standby for immediate mobilization, should the need arise.

## **Red Cross and Red Crescent action**

The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) has been monitoring the situation around the clock. Through its operations centre at the national headquarters, PRC has maintained constant communication with concerned chapters in Northern Luzon, with real-time information, advisories and response plans being relayed to teams on the ground. Chapters located close to the projected typhoon path have been monitoring and reporting the situation on the ground to the operations centre to enable quick decision-making and to facilitate faster mobilization of resources and a coordinated response. PRC attended PDRA meetings at the NDRRMC, to ensure that its planning and response strategy complements that of the authorities. Respective chapters are attending meetings and maintaining close coordination with their provincial, municipal and local DRRMCs.

The Aurora, Cagayan, Quirino, Kalinga, Mt. Province and Ifugao chapters of PRC are on full alert and have put their volunteers, rescue teams and medical teams on stand-by for immediate action in case of any eventuality. The water search and rescue (WASAR) team and Red Cross action team (RCAT) are also on stand-by and ready for deployment. The chapters have activated and alerted all community health volunteers and 143 volunteers to report weather condition and any untoward incident. Assets such as ambulances, rescue boats, vehicles, first aid kits and non-food items have been pre-positioned. In addition to the resources pre-positioned by respective chapters, PRC has non-food items (blankets, jerry cans, mosquito nets and sleeping mats) and hygiene kits for 900 families prepositioned in Nueva Ecija for immediate mobilization to affected areas if required. Of these, items for 200 families are provided by the IFRC. Additional stocks – enough to meet the needs of more than 40,000 families – are available in-country and can be mobilized from PRC's warehouses in Cebu, Manila and Subic Bay if needed.

Meantime, PRC's national headquarters is providing updated information to the Movement partners with in-country presence – including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) – through short message service (SMS) text blasts, Skype messaging and emails. Meanwhile, IFRC is liaising with PRC on a regular basis and is ready to support the National Society if requested. IFRC has specialized personnel, emergency supplies and resources available in country and in the region. IFRC-supplied stocks of pre-positioned relief items available in country are sufficient to meet the needs of up to 35,000 families. Additional supplies can be airlifted into the country within 24 hours from IFRC's zone logistics unit (ZLU) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

## Contact information

For further information, please contact:

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## How we work

All IFRC 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 the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The 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**.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



**Save lives.**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**  
and a culture of  
**non-violence** and **peace**.