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Information bulletin

Malaysia: Tropical Cyclone Kai-Tak

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

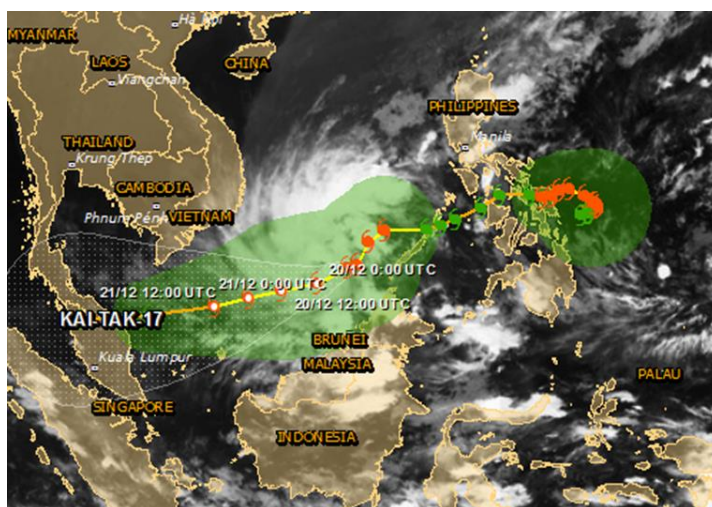
Information bulletin n° 1 22 December 2017

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has determined that external assistance is not required, and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors at this time.

[<click here for detailed contact information>](#)

The situation

Malaysia has had increased weather activities since the development of the Kai-tak (also known as Urduja) storm that crossed through Philippines over the last few days. The low-pressure system developed into a tropical depression on 15 December 2017. Since 15 December 2017, Kai-tak has left significant damage in the Philippines with close to 300,000 people affected. In Sarawak, Malaysia, more than 426 people have been affected by flooding. The weather system has been moving westwards approaching the eastern coastal areas of Sabah and is expected to reach Peninsular Malaysia in the coming 24 hours. In the last hours, the depression has developed into a category one cyclone. The cyclone is expected to bring heavy rains and strong winds, which may lead to significant flooding, landslides and beach erosion, and affecting over 1.2 million people.



Cloud map. Track and wind-buffer map. Green area: Area that can be affected by winds of more than 64 km/h (Tropical Storm strength). Orange area: Same, for winds of more than 92 km/h. Red area: Same, for winds above 120 km/h (Hurricane or Typhoon strength) (Source: JRC)

Action by the authorities

The Malaysian National Disaster Management Authority (NADMA) has issued warnings for potential flooding and strong winds over the weekend to a number of states (Sabah, Sarawak, Kelantan, Perak, Perlis, Kedah, Penang Island and Terengganu) and Labuan Federal Territory. NADMA has activated its Operations Centers and initiated its national response mechanisms in those affected areas. Rough sea warnings have been issued to shipping and marine services to cease sea activities until Monday, 25 December 2017 as winds may bring strong waves reaching up to 4.5 meters in height.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS) has been closely coordinating with national authorities including NADMA, Welfare department, Health ministry and Fire Rescue Department in disaster response accordingly to National Security Council Directive No 20, and have been monitoring the development of the storm. MRCS branches in Sabah and Kelantan are on standby with National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT), branch volunteers and prepositioned stock ready to respond in the affected areas. MRCS has prepositioned logistics support relief stock, including hygiene kits and blankets, sufficient to respond to 3,000 families. MRCS special RDS Search and Rescue Team have capacities to provide support in search and rescue, evacuations while Volunteer Aid Detachments from Kedah are ready to provide first-aid, distribute relief and food items as well as provide psychosocial support and restoration of family links.

MRCS prepositioned logistics support available and on standby include:

- One 18' rescue me (Kelantan and Terengganu)
- One ambulance (Kelantan and Terengganu)
- One 3-ton lorry (Kelantan)
- At national headquarters:
 - One 18' Rescue Boat
 - One Search and Rescue Vehicle
 - One Mobile Command Vehicle
 - One complete set Kit 5 WASH equipment
 - 11 ambulances
 - Four 3-ton lorry
 - One 1-ton lorry

The IFRC Asia Pacific regional office (APRO) in Kuala Lumpur is monitoring the situation closely and is on standby for further emergency response support.

Contact information

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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 (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster 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**.
