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# Information bulletin

## Philippines: Floods in Mindanao

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Information bulletin n° 1  
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21 January 2014

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. Philippine Red Cross (PRC) chapters in the most affected provinces have activated their disaster response teams while disaster preparedness stocks – including those mobilized with support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) – have been released to address immediate needs on the ground.

### The situation

Relentless heavy rains since the second week of January caused floods and landslides in Mindanao Island and have left at least 40 fatalities, injured more than 65 people and displaced thousands of families across 15 provinces in four regions – mostly in the Eastern, North-eastern, Northern and Central parts of the southern Philippine

island. The rains were initially fuelled by a low pressure area that intensified into a tropical depression, named Lingling (local name Agaton), before weakening as it hovered over parts of the island.

The government's meteorological agency – Philippine Astronomical, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) – lowered all public storm warning signals on Monday 20 January 2014. However, it warned that Mindanao Island still faces the threat of more rains as the weakened Lingling became almost stationary and is expected to linger on.

On Tuesday 21 January, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) reported that a total of 168,492 families (809,686 people) have been affected in 15 provinces, of whom 43,417 families (203,022 people) have been displaced and are currently accommodated in 565 evacuation centres. A total of 2,017 houses have been damaged, of which 739 of them are totally destroyed. The cost of damage to agriculture and infrastructure is estimated at PHP 238 million (approximately CHF 4.8 million).

The incessant rains left thousands of travelers stranded after sea vessels and flights were cancelled due to bad weather. Even though the intensity of the rains has since eased, access to some areas remains a challenge; a total of 50 roads and 25 bridges are still not passable. Delivery of relief in the municipalities of Cateel, Boston and Baganga in Davao Oriental is constrained because three major bridges have been damaged. It is worth noting that the hardest hit provinces of Agusan Del Sur, Compostela Valley, Davao Oriental and Surigao Del Sur are still recovering from the effects of Typhoon Bopha that struck in December 2012.



Staff and volunteers of the Philippine Red Cross serve hot, ready-to-eat meals to some of the people affected by floods in the province of Compostela Valley.

Photo: Philippine Red Cross

[< click here for map of affected areas or contact information >](#)

**Table 1: Casualties and damage caused by floods in Mindanao (Source: [NDRRMC](#))**

Details		Number
People dead		42
People injured		65
People missing		8
People in evacuation centres		203,022
Evacuation centres open		565
Totally damaged houses		739
Partially damaged houses		1,278
Administrative region	Province	Number of people affected
Region X (Northern Mindanao)	Bukidnon	648
	Camiguin	34,371
	Lanao del Norte	29,191
	Misamis Occidental	694
	Misamis Oriental	4,282
Region XI (Davao Region)	Compostela Valley	50,460
	Davao Del Norte	45,089
	Davao Del Sur	438
	Davao Oriental	247,935
Region XIII (Caraga Region)	Agusan Del Norte	68,922
	Agusan Del Sur	165,910
	Dinagat Islands	11,322
	Surigao Del Norte	24,753
	Surigao Del Sur	112,236
Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao	Maguindanao	13,435
<b>Total number of people affected</b>		<b>809,686</b>

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Philippine Red Cross responded immediately after the first incident of flooding was reported. The Red Cross assisted in the dissemination of early warning messages and is supporting evacuation efforts, while staff and volunteers also served ready-to-eat meals to 13,900 people and non-food items to 220 families.

**Table 1: People provided with hot meals by the Red Cross**

Province	Number of people served
Agusan Del Norte	987
Agusan Del Sur	1,661
Compostela Valley	3,890
Davao Del Norte	6,956
Davao Oriental	130
Surigao Del Norte	258
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,882</b>

Red Cross chapters in the provinces of Agusan Del Sur, Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental, still implementing [early recovery interventions relating to Typhoon Bopha](#) - which struck in December 2012 - have mobilized their existing resources, including personnel, equipment, stocks and vehicles, to respond to immediate needs. A total of 209 volunteers and 37 members of staff have been mobilized for the response.

The Philippine Red Cross national headquarters has released cash advances from its relief fund to facilitate the response by the Agusan Del Sur, Compostela Valley, Davao Oriental and Surigao del Norte chapters. Disaster preparedness stocks, including items mobilized via the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), are being released to address immediate needs. Meantime, all chapters in Mindanao are continuously monitoring the situation within their area of responsibilities as the threat of more rains remains.

## Contact information

**For further information, please contact:**

- **Philippine Red Cross (phone +63 2 525 5654; fax +63 2 527 0857):**
  - Gwendolyn Pang, secretary-general; email: [gwendolyn.pang@redcross.org.ph](mailto:gwendolyn.pang@redcross.org.ph)
- **IFRC Philippine country office, Manila (phone +63 2 336 8622):**
  - Marcel Fortier, head of delegation; email: [marcel.fortier@ifrc.org](mailto:marcel.fortier@ifrc.org)
  - Necephor Mghendi, operations manager; email: [necephor.mghendi@ifrc.org](mailto:necephor.mghendi@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC regional office for Southeast Asia, Bangkok (phone +66 2661 8201):**
  - Anne Leclerc, head of regional office; email: [anne.leclerc@ifrc.org](mailto:anne.leclerc@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC Asia Pacific zone office, Kuala Lumpur (phone: +60 3 9207 5700, fax +60 3 2161 0670):**
  - Al Panico, head of operations; email: [al.panico@ifrc.org](mailto:al.panico@ifrc.org)
  - Andreas Weissenberg, operations coordinator, email: [andreas.weissenberg@ifrc.org](mailto:andreas.weissenberg@ifrc.org)
  - Peter Ophoff, head of planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER), email: [peter.ophoff@ifrc.org](mailto:peter.ophoff@ifrc.org)



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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 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.

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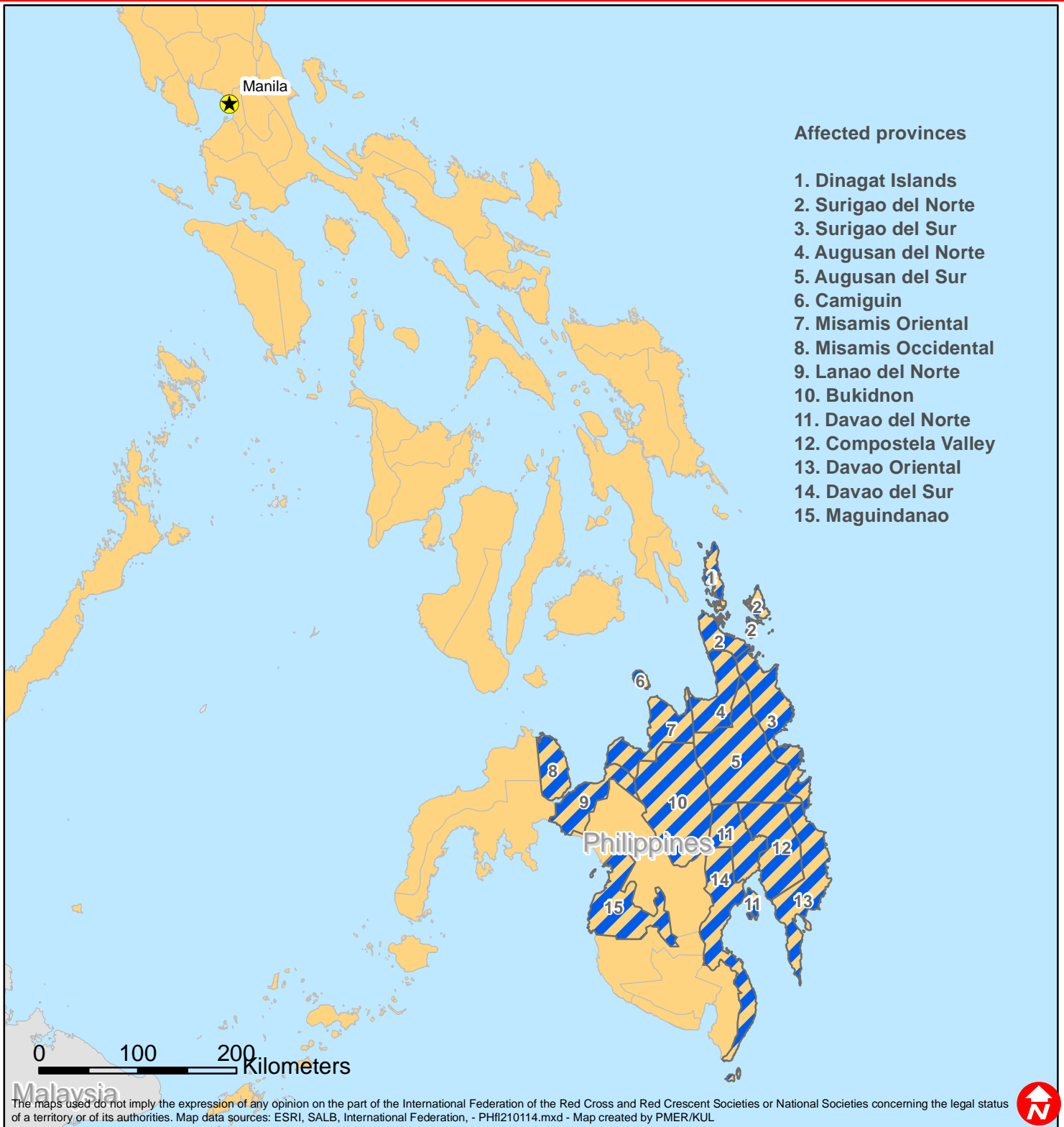



The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#), which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.



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 Affected provinces