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DREF operation update

Philippines: Earthquake

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRPH009
GLIDE n° [EQ-2012-000018-PHL](#)
Update n°1
23 April 2012

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked funds created in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the IFRC's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

Period covered by this Update: 17 February 2012 to 31 March 2012

Summary: CHF 146,331 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund ([DREF](#)) on 17 February 2012 to replenish pre-positioned stocks released earlier and to support the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) in delivering immediate assistance to some 4,500 families (22,500 beneficiaries).

Two months after a 6.9 magnitude earthquake struck the islands of Cebu and Negros Oriental in Central Visayas region of the Philippines, killing at least 50 people and injuring 112 others, the emergency and relief operation launched by PRC has gained significant ground and is on track to be completed as scheduled by 16 May 2012.

In addition to human fatalities and casualties, the quake caused damages to more than 15,700 houses and to infrastructure, including a hospital.

According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), a total of 320,165 persons were affected in two provinces. Most of the affected families have since returned to their homes and resumed daily activities, although a few are still reluctant to return due to the fear of aftershocks.

With the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), PRC has delivered a range of emergency and relief assistance to the most vulnerable quake-affected families. The assistance provided to date includes erecting tents to provide temporary shelter for 130 families, installing a Rubb hall to serve as a temporary hospital, providing psychosocial support to 980 persons, supplying 260,000 litres of clean water to families in need, distributing food packages to 4,200 families and distributing non-food relief supplies to 4,180 families.



A social worker from Philippine Red Cross facilitates a game as part of psychosocial activities for children whose families are temporarily residing in tents built in Guihulngan, one of the most affected municipalities in Negros Oriental. Photo: Philippine Red Cross

The replenishment of this DREF allocation has been supported by Canadian Red Cross/Canadian government, Netherlands Red Cross/Netherlands government and the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO). On behalf of the Philippine Red Cross, IFRC would like to thank these partners for their generous contributions.

Other major donors/partners who have contributed to the overall DREF in 2012 include the Australian Red Cross/Australian government, Austrian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross/Danish government, Icelandic Red Cross, Irish Red Cross Society, Medtronic Foundation, Norwegian Red Cross/Norwegian government, Red Cross of Monaco, Swiss Red Cross/Swiss government and Z Zurich Foundation. Details of all contributions to the DREF for 2012 are available [here](#).

[<click here to view contact details>](#)

The situation

On 6 February 2012, just before noon local time, a moderate size earthquake of magnitude 6.9 shook Negros, Cebu and nearby islands. The epicentres of the main shock and ensuing aftershocks were near the municipality of Tayasan on the eastern coast of Negros island. Intensity reports of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) indicate that the strongest ground shaking was felt in Dumaguete City and the municipalities of Tayasan, Vallehermoso and Guihulngan — all in Negros Oriental province. The strong ground shaking, especially in areas closer to the epicentre, caused damage to or collapse of weak structures, liquefaction in low-lying soft grounds, and landslides in areas with steep slopes. (Refer to PHIVOLCS [primer](#) for details).

According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), the earthquake killed 51 persons and injured 112 others. In addition to human fatalities and casualties, the effects of the quake destroyed 6,352 houses and partially damaged 9,435 others, leaving thousands of people homeless and prompting others to flee their homes, fearing aftershocks. At the peak of the disaster, some 4,800 families were accommodated in 72 evacuation centres. In all, the quake affected 320,165 persons in the provinces of Cebu and Negros Oriental, of which the latter was more severely impacted.

Table 1: Effects of Earthquake (Source: NDRRMC¹)

Details	Total
Deaths	51
Injured	112
Missing	62
Persons affected	Total # of families (persons)
Cebu	1,143 (6,385)
Negros Oriental	62,756 (313,780)
Total # of affected families	63,899 (320,165)
Totally damaged houses	6,352
Partially damaged houses	9,435
Total # of damaged houses	15,787

Almost two months after the main quake, many affected families have returned to their homes and resumed daily activities. However, some are still reluctant to return due to the fear of aftershocks. Seismologists have recorded more than 2,000 aftershocks. The latest aftershock to be felt in the area — refer to [PHIVOLCS earthquake intensity scale](#) for description — was a magnitude 4.3 quake recorded on 15 March 2012.

In addition to aftershocks, torrential rains that started in February and continued into March had a significant impact on those affected by the earthquake. A Red Cross team that conducted an ocular post-disaster assessment in Guihulngan City, Negros Oriental province in mid-March, observed that a significant number of families were still living within the compound of a local elementary school and in open spaces along the highway. Furthermore, owing to extensive damage wrought by the quake on Guihulngan District Hospital, a Rubb hall erected by PRC continues to serve as a temporary hospital pending restoration of the hospital building by the authorities. On the other hand, there have been significant recovery developments, for instance,

¹ NDRRMC: [SitRep No. 22 regarding the effects of the 6.9 earthquake in Negros Oriental](#)

water and electricity have been restored, markets and businesses have resumed functioning, and essential commodities are now available at normal prices.

Coordination and partnerships

Through an in-country International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement operational coordination mechanism activated since 2009, Movement partners have consistently shared updates on the progress made through PRC intervention in the quake zone. Since the launch of this operation, three coordination meetings have been held — one in February and two in March — during which concerned PRC services made presentations on their activities in delivering assistance to quake-affected families. Aside from PRC and IFRC, other participants to these meetings are the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Australian Red Cross, German Red Cross, The Netherlands Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross. Based on a joint analysis of the situation, Movement partners collectively determined that there was no need to dedicate additional resources to the quake zone. The support provided using this DREF allocation would be sufficient for the emergency relief activities to be carried out by PRC.

While undertaking interventions on the ground, PRC has coordinated with the authorities as well as the NDRRMC — to which it is a member agency — disaster risk reduction and management councils at provincial and municipal levels, local government units, and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). The National Society is also coordinating with the Department of Health (DoH) as regards support to the Guihulngan District Hospital, which was damaged by the quake. PRC erected a Rubb hall that continues to serve as a temporary hospital.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

This DREF operation was launched by PRC, with the support of IFRC, to deliver a range of emergency and relief services to quake-affected families in Negros Oriental province. At the emergency phase, PRC deployed emergency response units, experienced staff and volunteers who delivered services, including erecting tents to provide temporary shelter for 130 families and a Rubb hall to serve as a temporary hospital in Guihulngan City, providing psychosocial support to 980 persons, and supplying 260,000 litres of clean water to families in need.

The National Society initiated distribution of food and non-food item packages alongside emergency operations and rapid assessments using items released from its prepositioned stocks. As a standard operation procedure, PRC maintains IFRC-provided non-food item stocks in Manila, sufficient for up to 10,000 families. Items for 1,500 families were advanced from these stocks and dispatched to the quake zone in the immediate aftermath. The remainder items were all procured by the last week of February. Food packages, blankets, jerry cans and sleeping mats were procured locally by PRC, with the support of IFRC's in-country logistics team. The IFRC regional logistics unit (RLU) dispatched 1,500 hygiene kits from its warehouse in Kuala Lumpur.



Distributions by respective PRC chapters intensified. As of end of March, PRC had distributed food packages to 4,195 families and relief items to 4,171 others.
Photo: PRC

With all items planned under this DREF operation procured and those mobilized from Kuala Lumpur having arrived in-country, distributions by the respective PRC chapter intensified. Distribution of food and non-food

packages is nearing completion, with distribution of hygiene kits scheduled for April 2012. Distribution of hygiene kits will be accompanied with provision of basic health education, focusing on hygiene promotion and disease prevention. The operation is therefore on track as all pending activities will be completed on schedule.

Prior to undertaking distributions, Red Cross staff and volunteers identify several strategic locations to act as distribution points. Each distribution point caters for a cluster of beneficiaries, depending on proximity, thus ensuring that assistance is delivered in the most cost-effective, time-conscious manner and within distances that are convenient for all beneficiaries, especially women and children. Before the start of each distribution, staff and volunteers from PRC's Dumaguete City chapter organized orientation sessions to inform beneficiaries about the actual process. This is done to ensure that distributions are orderly and conducted respectfully, with attention paid to the safety, security, and dignity of beneficiaries. One IFRC delegate and staff from the PRC national headquarters are monitoring the activities.

In addition to serving quake-affected families, this operation also works on improving the preparedness and response capacity of the Dumaguete City chapter of the PRC. In this regard, one IFRC delegate has made two field trips to the quake zone and worked alongside PRC staff to provide mentoring, monitoring and technical support. To complement disaster preparedness of the Dumaguete City chapter of PRC, IFRC will support the chapter with provision of relevant search and rescue equipment and training a core search and rescue team. The search and rescue capacity will help position the chapter to respond better in case of future potential disasters. This support will be covered by IFRC's [Long-Term Planning Framework](#) (2012-2015) for the Philippines. IFRC will also provide computers and related office equipment to the chapter.

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food items)	
Outcome: Emergency food needs of 4,500 earthquake-affected families are met within one month.	
Outputs	Activities planned
The immediate food needs of 4,500 quake-affected families are met through one-off food distributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a beneficiary focusing strategy, including distribution protocols Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on distribution protocols Identify, register and verify beneficiaries Mobilize validated beneficiaries for food distributions Provide food (rice, noodles and sardines) to 4,500 families (22,500 persons) Monitor and report on distributions

Progress

PRC initiated distribution of food packages alongside emergency operations and rapid assessments. The distributions intensified after conclusion of emergency operations and as of 31 March 2012, PRC had distributed food packages to 4,195 families (20,975 persons) in five municipalities of Negros Oriental province.

Table 1. Food packages distributed through IFRC support

Municipality	No. of families assisted
Ayungon	1,119
Guihulngan	673
Jimalalud	786
La Libertad	827
Tayasan	790
Total	4,195

Distribution of the remaining 305 food packages in the municipality of Guihulngan is underway and will be completed during the first week of April. Each food package comprises 5kg of rice, four packets of noodles and four cans of sardines.

Relief distributions (non-food items)

Outcome: The status of up to 4,500 affected families improved through timely provision of appropriate relief items within three months.

Outputs	Activities planned
The immediate needs of 4,500 quake-affected families are met through relief distributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a beneficiary focusing strategy, including distribution protocols • Mobilize volunteers and provide them with orientation on distribution protocols • Register and verify beneficiaries • Mobilize validated beneficiaries for relief distributions • Distribute blankets (two per family) and sleeping mats (two per family) to 4,500 families (22,500 persons) • Provide 20-litre jerry cans (1 per targeted family) for household level water storage, to 4,500 families (22,500 persons) • Provide hygiene kits (1 per targeted family) to 1,500 families (7,500 persons) • Track movement of items from point of dispatch to end-user • Monitor and report on distributions

Progress

As with food packages, PRC initiated distribution of non-food packages alongside emergency operations and rapid assessments. Building on the momentum established at the outset, PRC has since distributed non-food packages to 4,171 families (20,855 persons) in Negros Oriental.

Table 2. Non-food items distributed through IFRC support

Municipality	No. of families assisted
Ayungon	1,119
Guihulngan	565
Jimalalud	786
La Libertad	911
Tayasan	790
Total	4,171

Distribution of the remaining 329 non-food packages in the municipality of Guihulngan is underway and will be completed during the first week of April. A standard PRC non-food item package comprises two blankets, one 20-litre jerry can, and two sleeping mats.

Also related to relief, distribution of hygiene kits will be undertaken in April, accompanied with provision of basic health education, focusing on hygiene promotion and disease prevention. All the required 1,500 hygiene kits were dispatched from IFRC's regional logistics unit (RLU) in Kuala Lumpur early February and arrived in Dumaguete City in mid-March. A standard PRC hygiene kit contains five toothbrushes, a tube of toothpaste, a bottle of shampoo, five pieces of bathing soap, five plastic combs, a pack cotton buds, a pack of sanitary napkins, a nail cutter/clipper, a bar of washing soap, two packs of disposable razors, two rolls of toilet paper and five face towels.

PRC staff and volunteers involved in relief activities have all been trained on basic Red Cross relief protocols, including maintaining records of beneficiaries that they have served. Designated focal points at the chapter collate distribution reports and submit them to PRC's national headquarters. Reconciliation of figures is undertaken based on distribution forms that are signed by beneficiaries as proof of receiving entitled items.

Health and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The immediate health risks of 1,500 families (7,500 persons) are reduced through targeted health prevention and promotion activities for three months.

Outputs	Activities planned
Some 1,500 quake-affected families have improved knowledge and practices essential for infectious disease prevention and health promotion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize and train community health volunteers. • Mobilize community members for disease prevention, health and hygiene promotion. • Disseminate relevant disease prevention, health and hygiene messages to 1,500 families (7,500 people) in the target communities. • Distribute information, education and communication (IEC) materials to 1,500 families (7,500 people) in the target communities. • 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. • Monitor and report on activities.
The scope and quality of the Philippine Red Cross health and psychosocial support 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. • Support orientation and training of staff and volunteers on psychosocial support.

Progress

The National Society has undertaken efforts to address the psychosocial needs of persons affected by the quake. In this regard, some 978 persons have been reached through psychosocial support services, which include critical incident stress management and play therapy such as games and recreational activities. Some 157 others were referred to relevant social welfare institutions.

PRC has conducted basic hygiene promotion to the benefit of 70 persons who sought shelter in tents erected in Guihulngan City. Although part of the relief package, distribution of the targeted 1,500 hygiene kits was not done alongside that of other items. This is because it will be done alongside basic health education, with focus on hygiene promotion and disease prevention. This approach has been adopted to ensure that families to be assisted with hygiene kits receive basic education on proper household and personal hygiene, as well as proper handling or treatment of drinking water. In preparation for the health and hygiene promotion, community health volunteers (CHVs) have been identified and have received basic training.

Water and sanitation

Outcome: The risk of sanitation-related diseases in targeted communities (1,500 families) has been reduced through the provision of safe water supply in three months.

Outputs	Activities planned
Safe water is provided to 1,500 quake-affected families as damaged systems are restored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide safe drinking water in areas where restoration of safe water supply systems is likely to take time. • 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.

Progress

With IFRC support, PRC deployed one water purification unit and three 10,000-litre bladder tanks to Guihulngan City from 16 February to 28 February. During the period of deployment, some 260,000 litres of water was provided to families in need (an average of 20,000 litres per day). The National Society has since discontinued distribution of water after local authorities restored water supply.

Challenges

Volunteers and staff of the local Red Cross chapter have been active on the ground since the immediate aftermath of the disaster. Through their dedication and tireless efforts, a majority of relief activities have been completed. While the 1,500 hygiene kits were dispatched from IFRC's regional logistics unit in Kuala Lumpur in early February and arrived in Dumaguete City in mid-March, a decision was taken to delay distributions and related hygiene promotion activities for one week. This was to allow the staff and volunteers to rest and avoid the risk of burnout as they had worked non-stop since the disaster struck. These pending activities will be implemented after the observation of a nation-wide week-long religious festival and will be concluded by end April.

Aside from aftershocks, torrential rains that started in February and continued into March had a significant impact on those affected by the earthquake. Unfavourable weather conditions also affected relief distributions as delivery of items in remote areas was delayed owing to inaccessible roads. Where items were able to get through, the weather conditions made it difficult for beneficiary families to venture out to distribution points. The local Red Cross chapter re-scheduled the distributions, and conducted them as soon as the weather improved.

Owing to extensive damage wrought on Guihulngan District Hospital by the quake, the facility has been rendered non-functional. It will take months for the authorities to restore the hospital building and facilities. For now, PRC is sustaining the Rubb hall it erected outside the hospital compound, to serve as a temporary hospital pending restoration of the building. This will ensure that delivery of public medical services continues.

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

DREF history

- This DREF was allocated on 17 February 2012 to replenish pre-positioned stocks released earlier and to support the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) in delivering immediate assistance to some 4,500 families (22,500 beneficiaries).



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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.



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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Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2012/2-2012/3
Budget Timeframe	2012/2-2012/5
Appeal	MDRPH009
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Funding

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	146,331					146,331
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>DREF Allocations</i>	146,331					146,331
C4. Other Income	146,331					146,331
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	146,331					146,331
D. Total Funding = B + C	146,331					146,331
Appeal Coverage	100%					100%

II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	146,331					146,331
E. Expenditure	-91,612					-91,612
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	54,719					54,719

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRPH009 - Philippines - Cebu Earthquake

Appeal Launch Date: 16 feb 12

Appeal Timeframe: 16 feb 12 to 16 may 12

Interim Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2012/2-2012/3
Budget Timeframe	2012/2-2012/5
Appeal	MDRPH009
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Consolidated Expenditure vs. Budget

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		146,331					146,331	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Clothing & Textiles	59,850	55,533				55,533	4,317	
Food	20,250	20,457				20,457	-207	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	49,300						49,300	
Utensils & Tools		9,573				9,573	-9,573	
Total Relief items, Construction, Supplies	129,400	85,563				85,563	43,837	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage	1,000	36				36	964	
Distribution & Monitoring	3,000						3,000	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	1,000	31				31	969	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	5,000	67				67	4,933	
Personnel								
Volunteers	3,000						3,000	
Total Personnel	3,000						3,000	
General Expenditure								
Travel		390				390	-390	
Total General Expenditure		390				390	-390	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recov	8,931	5,591				5,591	3,340	
Total Indirect Costs	8,931	5,591				5,591	3,340	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	146,331	91,612				91,612	54,719	
VARIANCE (C - D)		54,719				54,719		