

This report was issued by OCHA New York based on inputs from the OCHA Regional Office for Asia Pacific (ROAP) and OCHA Philippines. It covers the period from 20 to 25 November 2009 and addresses Typhoon Parma/Pepeng, Tropical Storm Ketsana/Ondoy as well as Typhoon Mirinae/Santi. The next report will be issued on or around 1 December.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- The total official number of damaged houses has risen to 307,000 units. Shelter support is seriously under-funded (less than 10 percent).
- The IASC inputs to the PDNA report is in its final stages, with UNDP consolidating the input to the World Bank editing team.

II. Situation Overview

- **The humanitarian situation is still critical for people who are displaced, still living in areas submerged in water or people in areas that have been isolated by landslides.** Accessibility in northern Luzon remains an issue, with many *barangays* (village) isolated by damaged bridges and landslides. Efforts to reach inaccessible areas by air are ongoing.
- The total number of damaged houses has increased to almost 307,000 (46,000 destroyed, 261,000 partially damaged) (NDCC, 14 November). In the last week the total damages of Mirinae/Santi (67,000 houses) surpassed those of Parma/Pepeng (54,000 houses). The Government is in the process of finalizing the validation process. The affected population is either sheltered in their (damaged) houses, in Evacuation Centers (ECs), in relocation sites and with host families, or have moved back to their province with the Balik Probinsiya program (269 families).
- As of 16 November 2009, 78,915 families (382,541 individuals) reside in still-flooded areas in 871 *barangays* in 125 municipalities of National Capital Region, Region IV-B, and Region V.
- Leptospirosis cases arising from the disaster from Region NCR, I, II, III, IVA and CAR total 3,382 cases, with 249 cumulative mortalities

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Needs: The key humanitarian concern is access to safe water, sanitation facilities and hygiene items in the relocation camps and in residential areas affected by the floods. Other top priorities include rehabilitation and improvement of drainage, solid waste collection and vector control.

Response: Emergency response projects are ending with recovery programmes taking over. Remaining emergency issues relate to evacuees from areas that remain flooded, who are told not to return to unsafe areas or who continue to live in flooded areas. MSF-Switzerland and France are winding down their emergency programmes. Sanitation projects in the recovery phase are ongoing with Handicap International, Oxfam, MSF-France, PNRC, IOM and Save the Children.

Gaps and Challenges: Evacuees in several municipalities are being moved out of the schools which were being used as ECs after Tropical Storm Ketsana/Ondoy. With no central plan for resettlement, relocation of evacuees is the responsibility of each municipality. The different clusters have reported difficulties in monitoring the closure of camps and movement of evacuees, which in turn has hampered agencies' ability to plan and provide sanitation support. In several reported cases, evacuees go to temporary relocation sites, usually covered courts (e.g. basketball courts), until suitable land is found for a more permanent solution. Several areas, particularly near the lakeside, have been defined as unsafe areas of return. A list of areas considered unsafe has not been widely distributed by the Government. The list is necessary to help WASH Cluster members plan appropriate support.

Food

Needs: Additional food assistance needs following Typhoon Parma/Pepeng have been incorporated in the revised UN Flash Appeal launched on 18 November. WFP is waiting for the final approval from its HQ to

extend support for early recovery activities through June 2010. WFP's Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) was concluded on 20 November. Various UN agencies and NGO partners participated in the assessment. Data entry has commenced and the final report will be available by the end of November. The preliminary results have been incorporated into the Post Disaster Needs Assessment led by World Bank and developing partners.

Response: WFP plans to distribute rice and high-energy biscuits in six regions – Region I, II, III, IV/A, CAR and NCR – for the month of November. Preparation for WFP's supplementary feeding programme is underway. 50,000 children between 6 – 24 months old will receive a monthly take-home ration of fortified blended food, sugar and oil. The programme is scheduled to start January 2010 and will target children in the provinces of Laguna and Rizal of Region IV-A. IEC materials to support the School Food Program (SFP) implementation will be developed. WFP is planning to reach an additional 16,000 children in Luzon with Micronutrient Powder (MNP). The operational area for this programme is yet to be finalized. Community Family Services International (CFSI), WFP's Cooperating Partner in Region III, completed the post-distribution monitoring on 20 November. The monitoring reports indicated that WFP food relief was well-received and appreciated by beneficiaries and no food selling was reported. A weekly Food Cluster Coordination Meeting was organized 24 November.

Gaps and Challenges: Funding shortfalls are expected to rise significantly with the approval of the revised WFP emergency operation. Continued donor support is needed to provide food assistance to the most vulnerable and severely affected populations in Luzon.

Health

Needs: Leptospirosis cases from Region NCR, I, II, III, IVA and CAR since the disaster now totals 3,382 cases, with 249 cumulative mortalities.

Response: The Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) team is still finalizing its report, which will be released upon consolidation. A total of 337,936 individuals have been given prophylaxis in NCR and Region IV-A. Mapping of affected primary centers is still ongoing. Continued mobile health care services and psychosocial program coverage are being provided in affected areas through the efforts of partner agencies and NGOs.

Gaps and Challenges: Several areas still have limited access to medical care service. No 24/7 health services are available in evacuation centers. Access of evacuees to secondary and tertiary health care is limited. Disease surveillance and reporting systems must be urgently strengthened.

Camp Coordination/NFIs

Needs: There are currently over 300 ECs concentrated mainly in Region IV-A and NCR hosting a population of up to 92,300 people (DSWD, 15 November). Weekly assessments are ongoing of all the evacuation sites. A pilot programme in four municipalities was implemented last week to support the Department for Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in leading this data collection and reporting. The results will be finalized this week. Reports of rapid closures of ECs have been documented in Muntinlupa City of NCR and Rizal Province of Region IV-A. Further investigation is on-going in relation to these closures.

Response: The cluster is increasing its assessment capacity by engaging government authorities in data collection. The CCCM/NFI Displacement Tracking Matrix has compiled multi-sectoral data on 159 evacuation centres principally through IOM and Philippines National Red Cross (PNRC) teams; however, data collection and compilation is being transitioned to DSWD with agency support. Physical rehabilitation of high risk evacuation centres in NCR and Region IV-A commenced this week in 12 evacuation centres. NFI Tracking is on-going and will be rolled out by Local Government Units in the worst affected municipalities. There has been continued engagement of local and national government around the closure of evacuation centres. In line with this the last CCCM/NFI cluster meeting was hosted by the city government of Muntinlupa with participation from the regional DSWD office.

Gaps and Challenges: There is still a significant shortfall in terms of servicing the 1.7 million people targeted in the revised Flash Appeal, who are living in flooded areas and ECs requiring NFI assistance. Accessing adequate data is a particular concern as the situation remains highly fluid with ECs closing or relocating rapidly. More EC assessment teams are still required. Obtaining information from all stakeholders with respect to NFI distribution continues to be difficult.

Agriculture

Needs: The combined damage to the agriculture sector has been valued at \$621,878 million, based on official damage and loss reports from the Department of Agriculture (DA). Rice crops were most severely damaged, but damages to irrigation systems, equipment and roads also represent significant humanitarian needs. Serious concerns for food security and livelihoods persist.

The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.

Response: After the Agriculture Sector Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) field visits in October with the DA, FAO, WB, ADB, and JICA, the draft report is in its final stages and is expected to be finalized before the end of November. As an emergency response, the national government through the Department of Agriculture reported the distribution of 23,241 bags of certified rice seeds, 400 bags of corn seeds and 1,127 kg of vegetable seeds. This involved full subsidy for seeds and fertilizers given to rice farmers with totally damaged farms and 50 percent subsidy in rice seeds (without fertilizer) for farmers with partially damaged farms. In Region IV-A, some piglets and goats were distributed. Hand tractors were also given out. To date, project proposals have been submitted in response to pledges from Spain (AECID), Japan and Belgium. The French NGO Premiere Urgence (PU), in its latest needs assessment of Benguet (in the municipalities of La Trinidad, Atok, Itogon and Tublay), La Union (Naguilian and Bauang) and Pangasinan (Municipality of San Fabian), validated the need for restoration of activity for farmers through distribution of farm inputs like seeds, fertilizers and tools as well as by clearing of farm lands and repair of irrigation facilities. The need for farm diversification (small scale livestock) was also emphasized.

Gaps and Challenges: Despite the few interventions afforded by government and pledges made, requirements for immediate relief assistance for the affected farmers remain underfunded.

Education

Needs: The combined damages incurred by the typhoons on the education sector have exceeded Php 1.5 billion, equivalent to more than US\$ 30 million. In total, 2,936 schools have been damaged. As of 4 November, 100 schools in Luzon were being used to house almost 1,000 families. The number of schools being used as ECs is decreasing as authorities try to restore normalcy to educational activities.

Response: To date, the education cluster provided 68,536 essential learning packages for individual students, 3,371 teaching packs for individual teachers, 31 library sets (100 books each), 1,033 individual Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) packs for children, 66 ECCD kits for day care centers and preschools, 8,604 food packs for individual children, 38 clean-up sets, 10,089 hygiene kits for elementary and high schools, 938 jerry cans and 938 bottles of hyposol. The Cluster participated in the joint assessment to Zambales and conducted a separate assessment to Pangasinan and Bulacan. The outcomes of the assessments have been shared with the Cluster members, and follow up support is being prepared. The Cluster Coordinators have met with Under Secretary Bacani to discuss the closure of schools as ECs as well as other pending issues. It was suggested to have a joint meeting of the Cluster coordinators with the School District Superintendents.

Gaps and Challenges: Joint discussions have been ongoing with the Protection Cluster on the closure of schools being used as ECs. The situation of water and sanitation facilities in schools has to be assessed and planned for as the RADAR reports do not clearly specify the damage to water and sanitation facilities in schools. There have been a few cases in which children were not able to sit for regular exams due to the typhoon emergency and subsequent flooding.

Emergency Shelter

Needs: The total number of damaged houses has increased to almost 307,000 (46,000 totally destroyed, 261,000 partially damaged) (NDCC, 14 November). In the last week the total damages of Mirinae/Santi (67,000) surpassed those of Parma/Pepeng (54,000). The Government is in the process of finalizing the validation process. The affected population is sheltered either in their (damaged) houses, in ECs, in relocation sites or with host families, or have moved back to their province with the Balik Probinsiya program (269 families). The Protection Cluster, in cooperation with CCCM, Wash, Early recovery and Shelter clusters, will express their concerns to the NDCC this week regarding shelter alternatives after closure of the ECs in the short and medium term. There are also concerns about the response towards the affected informal settlements (number/ needs to be assessed), and people that are living in submerged houses. Specific concerns persist for especially vulnerable people such as the elderly, disabled, and children.

Response: The shelter organizations (14) are working in a coordinated manner through the Emergency Shelter Cluster. As part of the revised flash appeal that was launched last week, the shelter cluster is planning to cover 67,500 households but has received less than 10% funding so far. Additional fundraising efforts are planned by the cluster. The shelter cluster is planning to provide shelter support by the distribution of shelter repair kits, complete shelter kits, transitional shelter, cleaning support, tents and training in all affected regions. Early recovery is mainstreamed through the provision of 'do it yourself' kits, cash for work and voucher systems. The INGO Shelterbox distributed 688 shelterboxes (150 only tents) mainly in Regions I and CAR. Those tents are being used in camps. IOM has distributed 300 shelter repair kits in Muntinlupa. Habitat for Humanity distributed 100 repair kits in Malanday (Marikina). CRWRC has provided high pressure house cleaning support to 800 families in Muntinlupa (NCR), Bay and Victoria (IV-A). A series of meetings will be set up with DSWD regional offices together with CCCM to better coordinate operations and access information

collected at *barangay* level. The Shelter Cluster is improving coordination with government agencies like the National Housing Authority (NHA) and the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC).
Gaps and Challenges: The total official numbers of damaged houses has risen to 307,000 units. Shelter support is seriously under-funded. Short term and medium term shelter gap for people that are currently in EC's which might be closing, while permanent shelter is not yet available.

Protection

Needs: Some assistance has been provided to those leaving ECs, but concerns have been raised as to communication and participation in the decision making process as well as the viability of options available to those who cannot return to their previous homes. There is an urgent need for assessments in the north, with reports of families having been separated during evacuation.

Response: The Protection cluster together with relevant clusters is looking at ways of working closely with authorities and communities to develop a common approach to ensure that viable solutions to or during displacement are found. The field work of the participatory protection assessment was completed, covering 30 sites representing various situations and regions. The protection cluster provided inputs to the Post Disaster Needs Assessment undertaken by the World Bank. CWC and Norfield reached an agreement to collaborate on family tracing and reunification of missing, separated and unaccompanied children.

Gaps and Challenges: Identification of durable solutions for families whose homes were destroyed requires appropriate consultation and participation of the communities concerned, clear criteria for return, relocation and local settlement as well as cross-cluster coordination. Difficulties of access and the lack of partners in the Northern and Central Luzon areas are a major constraint for child protection interventions.

Logistics

Needs: Accessibility in northern Luzon remains an issue with many *barangays* isolated by damaged bridges and landslides. Efforts to reach inaccessible areas by air are ongoing.

Response: Operations continue out of the three Logistics Cluster hubs in Laoag and San Fernando La Union with air operations focused on reaching areas within the Cordillera Administrative Region including Mountain Province, Apayao, Abra and Benguet. Road operations have been busy pre-positioning goods at the hubs and making deliveries to San Fernando Pampanga and Tuguegarao in the north, as well as to GMA Cavite in Region IV-A. Key users of these services include DSWD, UNICEF and WFP. The Armed Forces of Philippines (AFP) and Philippines Air Force (PAF) continue to support Logistics Cluster operations through DSWD by providing staff and surface transport. An updated Logistical Planning Map is now available showing storm affected areas, isolated areas, Logistics Cluster hubs and logistics-related infrastructure. It can be downloaded from the Logistics Cluster website at www.logcluster.org/phi09a. Hard copies are available at the Logistics Cluster office.

Emergency Telecoms

Response: Security VHF repeater installation in Tagatay has commenced. Microwave link in Cabalan/Olongapo is finalized and testing continues. Tower installation at the Antipolo site has commenced. Negotiations with authorities together with UNDSS to secure repeater sites in Metro Manila and frequency licensing are ongoing. The cluster continues to provide technical support to the humanitarian community in Metro Manila.

Gaps and Challenges: UN/Humanitarian sub-office hubs in the affected areas have not yet been confirmed. Northern Metro Manila VHF security communications repeater coverage and wide-area security communications repeater coverage (region 4A) are limited.

IV. Coordination

The cluster coordination meetings are ongoing, and a meeting schedule can be downloaded at www.un.org.ph/response

NDCC, OCHA and WFP Logistics and ECT are doing a preparedness assessment of the Mayon Volcano situation on 25 November to map danger zones and the potential set up of on site coordination services.

V. Funding

The Financial Tracking Service reports that, as of 24 November the Revised Philippines Flash Appeal 2009 is 22 percent funded, having received \$30.95 million out of the revised request for \$143.77 million.

All humanitarian partners including donors and recipient agencies are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in-kind contributions by sending an email to: fts@reliefweb.int.

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