

This report was issued by OCHA Philippines. It covers the period from 01 to 08 December 2009 and addresses Typhoon Parma/Pepeng, Tropical Storm Ketsana/Ondoy, Typhoon Mirinae/Santi as well as Tropical Depression Urduja. The next report will be issued on or around 15 December.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- The Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) convened the 2nd Public-Private Sector Dialogue for Post-Disaster Assistance on 02 December 2009. The PDNA main report, sector-specific reports and conclusions were presented.
- As of 08 December the Financial Tracking Service (FTS) reports that the Revised Philippines 2009 Flash Appeal has been 23.6% funded, having received \$33.96 million of the revised request for \$143.77 million. WFP Philippines reports having received a further \$16 million in donations not yet updated on FTS. Underfunding continues to be a key constraint across the clusters.
- The Shelter Cluster faces critical funding shortages as the extent of the immediate housing needs become clearer.
- WFP presented the results of the Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) to the humanitarian community on 03 December 2009.
- Preliminary findings of the Participatory Protection Assessment (PPA) were presented at a workshop on 3 December identifying key concerns of the affected population.

II. Situation Overview

- The Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) convened the 2nd Public-Private Sector Dialogue for Post-Disaster Assistance on 02 December 2009. The PDNA main report and sector reports were presented, detailing damages and needs in each sector and estimating the costs of recovery. According to the report, Typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng caused damage and losses equivalent to about 2.7 percent of GDP. A total of \$942.9 million is required to meet recovery needs, and a total of \$3.48 billion is required for the reconstruction efforts over the short term (2009-10) to medium term (2011-12).
- As of 08 December the Financial Tracking Service (FTS) reports that the Revised Philippines 2009 Flash Appeal has been 23.6% funded, having received \$33.96 million of the revised request for \$143.77 million. WFP Philippines reports having received a further estimated \$16 million in donations not yet updated on FTS, tentatively bringing the total appeal to 38% funded.
- Underfunding continues to be a key constraint across the clusters. The most seriously underfunded clusters remain: Agriculture (12% funded), Shelter (10% funded), Protection (8% funded) and Education (4% funded).
- The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) and the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) continue to monitor the Mayon volcano in Albay province. The volcano shows threatening signs of activity with ash explosions and tremors.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

Emergency Shelter

Needs: The total number of damaged houses is 311,000 (NDCC). This figure is expected to rise as the data from some of the still-flooded areas becomes available. A Gap Analysis based on data from the PDNA, NDCC and NHA data on informal settlers was completed giving a profile of land/home owners and informal settlers. Government relocation response mainly focuses on the informal settlers. Total need for resettlement/relocation is calculated at almost 100,000 families. Approximately 20% of them currently reside in ECs (CCCM Cluster), 1,332 families live in relocation sites, and 269 families have returned to their province of origin with the Balik Probinsiya program. The remaining 78,000 families are staying in their "affected" houses or with host families. An additional 85,000 homeowners will have to find an alternate location and 125,000 houses are in need of repairs. Prior to the disasters, 500,000 informal settler families in Metro Manila had been identified for relocation, and nationwide the figure was 3.7 million families (PDNA).

Response: The Shelter Cluster proposed support for 67,500 households in the Revised Philippines 2009 Flash Appeal but only 15,000 families can be supported with the current funding, mainly through the provision

of repair kits. BDO Foundation, after consultation with the Shelter Cluster, plans to donate land to some LGUs but have requested cooperation for shelter construction. GRP has identified relocation sites (in different stages) with an estimated capacity of 80,000 informal settlement families. The biggest relocation (57,000 families) is planned in Region III, Bulacan, San Miguel. Most of the affected population lives in Regions IV-A and NCR, meaning large population movements would be required. It is therefore critical that the area be developed with sufficient facilities and livelihood opportunities. Such relocation sites would normally require one to three years to develop. The shelter cluster is deeply concerned about the short term solutions that can be provided by the government. The land/home owners are supported by GRP through (emergency) loan programs. Swiss cooperation finalized 450 transitional shelters in Los Banos, Bay and San Pedro. IOM distributed almost 2000 shelter repair kits around Muntinlupa. Handicap International, Habitat for Humanity and PNRC are all identifying beneficiaries. Shelterbox finalized their distribution of 2,000 tents. A Shelter Cluster workshop will take place on 08 December to address these issues with the government representatives and discuss solutions and support. The IFRC Shelter Cluster has started preparing the handover of its activities to a Global Shelter cluster partner as the focus of its activities is moves towards recovery.

Gaps and Challenges: Shelter support remains seriously underfunded based on the conservative figure of 311,000 damaged houses. The government is currently in the process of identifying land for transitional and relocation purposes but the development will take some time, seriously delaying the response. Lack of sufficient shelter alternatives after closure of the ECs presents a serious protection challenge. The availability, suitability and speed of development of the relocation sites and specific concerns for vulnerable people such as elderly, disabled, and children are also identified gaps.

Protection

Needs: Preliminary findings of the Participatory Protection Assessment (PPA) were presented at a workshop on 3 December. They highlighted that 80% of the 1250 persons interviewed considered that they were not consulted about durable solutions, relocation, or relief programs. The PPA showed that females feel less safe than males, and that there are increased vulnerabilities to gender-based violence. Registration of separated children and assessment of family separation in the north is needed.

Response: The PPA findings were validated by 70 persons from government, communities, NGOs, UN, and cluster leads. Priorities were identified and strategies developed for further work. Agreements have been reached with four NGOs for psychosocial services, family tracing and reunification activities, for quick impact projects and distribution of protection kits. Assistance to persons with special needs is ongoing. More than 65,000 children are being provided with psychosocial support and care through child-friendly spaces and 180 child-focused activities in over 200 affected areas. Over 2,263 volunteers have been mobilized to provide Child Protection (CP) services with over 51 child protection NGOs and CBOs. Advocacy in relation closure of ECs was undertaken in three areas by NGOs, and a checklist for closure standards was drafted.

Gaps and Challenges: Systematic advocacy and support to the authorities involved in relocation will be prioritized. Consultation with beneficiaries and dissemination of information must be enhanced. Capacity building, distribution of supplies, presence, and access must all be addressed with partners involved in CP.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Needs: The key humanitarian concerns continue to be 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: A sanitation workshop in Laguna Province involving the municipalities unable to attend the first workshop was held on 03 December. As well as identifying ECs where sanitation is problematic and identifying solutions with a timeline, the participants discussed concrete measures for future disaster preparedness. Staff from the Provincial Authority reported the establishment of a WASH team which will clarify responsibilities for future disaster response within the government. The WASH team is a member of the WASH/Water Cluster. Provincial WASH Clusters in Rizal and Laguna will strengthen as recruitment for Information Officers is underway.

Gaps and Challenges: Challenges remain to reduce the risk from water-borne diseases such as diarrhea, AWD and cholera. It remains unclear where people are going after the closure of Evacuation Centers. There is no central plan for disaster preparedness or response.

Health

Needs: Population in flooded areas remains at high-risk from water and vector-borne diseases. Health humanitarian aid groups in the field are beginning to exit their project sites. Not all health facilities from barangay health stations to hospitals have fully recovered from the damages incurred during the flooding.

Response: GOARN has given recommendations on post-disaster disease surveillance for discussion with the Department of Health. The health cluster is discussing appropriate exit strategies for mobile health teams planning to exit their project sites in order to ensure continued access to essential health care services. WHO is looking to assist in the rehabilitation of health facilities by providing essential supplies and equipment to restore functionality.

Gaps and Challenges: While ECs are being systematically decamped, there is variability in the relocation strategies per municipality, with possible impact on access to health services of the affected population

Food

Needs: The revised UN Flash Appeal included WFP's relief and early recovery assistance request of US\$ 55.5 million to cover needs until March 2010. WFP Emergency Operation (EMOP) budget revision was approved and extended until June 2010. The EMOP is currently 50 percent funded and targets: extremely vulnerable individuals such as female headed households through general food distribution; poorest and most affected households through food for work; and, children between 6 – 23 months and pregnant/nursing mothers through the provision of a dry take home ration of supplementary food. The total food requirements are estimated to be over 70,000 tons to reach some 1.5 million beneficiaries. WFP received confirmation this week of a US (Food for Peace) contribution (for EMOP) of US\$ 10 million and an ECHO contribution (for EMOP and 2 SOs) of EUR 4 million (approximately US\$ 6 million).

Response: General food distributions are ongoing for November 2009. WFP presented the results of the Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) to the humanitarian community on 03 December. The EFSA, conducted in November, looks at the impact of the flood on food security and livelihoods among different population groups to provide a starting point for discussions and inform targeting and programme design. The report is due out shortly. Weekly Food Cluster meetings will now be held on a bi-weekly basis. Orientation sessions with Regional Provincial and Municipal DSWD officials have been held in all regions except for Region III, which is planned for the upcoming week. With a focus on clarifying roles and responsibilities, these sessions aim to strengthen coordination between all levels of DSWD and WFP. Regional-level DSWD offices are planning to organize meetings across all affected regions throughout the month to identify relevant and region-specific Food-For-Work activities and to put forward requests. WFP and National Nutrition Council met on 01 December to discuss the implementation details of the Supplementary Feeding Programme expected to start in January 2010. Consultation workshops are planned for 11 December and 07 January in Region IV-A to focus on targeting, distribution schedule and community sensitization.

Gaps and Challenges: Funding shortfalls have risen significantly since the approved revision and extension of current WFP EMOP. Continued donor support is required to carry on food assistance..

Camp Coordination/NFIs

Needs: DSWD reports that 307 evacuation centers (ECs) continue to host 91,621 IDPs. Bi-weekly assessments are ongoing in all ECs. The results of the pilot data collection programme have been finalized in 3 municipalities and sent to both the cluster and the Regional DSWD Offices. All pilot operations aim to facilitate the DSWD lead in data collection and reporting. All ECs in Muntinlupa City (NCR) have been closed this week and further closures are expected in Rizal Province (Region IV-A). The returns process from ECs will be explored through Focus Group Discussions to take place in the coming week.

Response: The cluster is increasing its assessment capacity by engaging DSWD in data collection for the assessments of ECs. The CCCM/NFI Displacement Tracking Matrix has compiled multi-sector data on 290 ECs principally through IOM and PNRC teams. This data collection and compilation is being transitioned to DSWD with agency support. Physical rehabilitation of high risk ECs hosting a total of 19,800 IDPs is ongoing in 36 ECs in NCR and Region IV-A. NFI Tracking is ongoing and will be rolled out by Local Government Units (LGUs) in the worst affected municipalities. There has been continued engagement of local and national government around the closure of ECs. Terms of Reference for Focus Group Discussions assessing the process of EC closure with recently returned IDPs was developed and staff hired. Focus Group Discussions will commence in Muntinlupa on 11-12 December. Arrangements have been finalized for a 2-day camp management training to be provided to all EC managers. Training of camp managers in Region IV-A Provinces of Rizal and Laguna will be held from 15–18 December.

Gaps and Challenges: Accessing adequate data is a particular concern as the situation remains highly fluid with ECs closing or relocating rapidly. Gaining information from all stakeholders around NFI distribution is a continuing constraint. There is a significant shortfall in the provision of NFIs and shelter repair kits as well as the need for further rehabilitation of many ECs.

Early Recovery

Needs: Affected rural areas continue to serious livelihood, face food security and debt issues. In urban areas, many households relied on single home-based businesses of which many have lost both equipment and

inventory. National GDP is expected to decline by in 2009 and 2010 adversely affecting the livelihoods of the most vulnerable populations, and progressive impoverishment poses an increased risk.

Response: The Early Recovery Cluster convened a workshop on 07 December to mainstream a framework for ER activities across the clusters. A matrix tool for identifying programming gaps was well received, highlighting the need for the inclusion of such variables as ensuring national ownership, promoting local capacities, promoting gender equality and incorporating risk reduction measures.

Gaps and Challenges: Disaster preparedness remains a priority concern.

Education

Needs: The total number of schools damaged stands at 2,936 (2,416 elementary, 520 secondary). The most recent information indicates that around 100 schools are still being used as ECs housing nearly 10,000 families. The total damage is estimated at PhP 1.5 billion (USD \$32 million).

Response: To date, the Education Cluster has provided 76,392 essential learning packages for individual students, 379 teaching packs for individual teachers, 31 library sets of 100 books each, 1,033 individual packs for ECCD children, 66 ECCD kits for day care centers/preschools, 8,604 food packs for individual children, 46 clean-up sets, 10,089 hygiene kits for elementary/high schools, 938 jerry cans and 938 bottles of hyposol.

The gaps in terms of education relief supply delivery to students and schools are closing. Attention is mainly given to the ECs, tent cities and relocation sites. Increasing attention is being paid to psychosocial support. Early recovery activities are ongoing to ensure long term solutions to the challenges posed by the disasters. Preparations for the Disaster Risk Reduction planning workshop on the 17 December are underway.

Gaps and Challenges: There are still concerns about low attendance and dropouts in some hard-hit areas, especially for children who are still being accommodated in ECs, tent cities and relocation sites. Funding gaps make it difficult to ensure the delivery of the support necessary to cover the Education Cluster targets.

Nutrition

Needs: In flood affected communities where families choose to stay in their residences, the environment has become hazardous for small children. Access to quality water is compromised and contaminated water supplies increase the risk of water borne diseases. Diarrhea, other infectious diseases and under-nutrition are main contributors to child deaths. In general terms, the younger the infant is, the higher the risk. Exclusive breastfeeding is the single best way to avoid diarrhea and other diseases. Dangerous bacteria do not contaminate breast milk, and breast milk protects against infection and provides the energy to prevent malnutrition. Donations of infant formula, other milk products, bottles and teats though well-intentioned are endangering children's lives. Efforts must focus on reducing the risk of *not* breastfeeding amongst infants who are mix-fed and infants who are not breastfed at all. The priority targets are mothers with infants less than 6 months old and pregnant/lactating mothers living in ECs in Region IV-A and NCR.

Response: Cascade training on IFE for health staff is ongoing in San Pedro, Los Banos, Cabuyao, Santa Cruz, Binan, Calamba, Santa Rosa municipalities in Laguna Province and Cainta, Taytay, Tanay, Angono, San Mateo, Binangonan municipalities in Rizal province with support from Save the Children, Child Fund, Plan International and UNICEF. The second batch of IFE orientation training for 65 Municipals Nutrition Action Officers, field health personnel and IYCF coordinators from 7 municipalities in Rizal province is scheduled for 11 December 2009.

Gaps and challenges: Limited resources in terms of health workers skilled in infant and young child feeding, infant feeding in emergencies and number of non-governmental organizations with nutrition program/interventions restricts the reach and speed of implementation.

Agriculture

Needs: Consistent with the PDNA report (launched during the 2nd Public-Private Sector Dialogue on Post Disaster Assistance on 02 December 2009), the combined damage to the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sector amounted to PhP 3.8 billion (USD \$80.8 million). The immediate losses from standing crops' livestock/poultry, fisheries and forestry was PhP 24.8 billion (USD 527.32 million). This tremendously affected the livelihood of some 480,000 farmers in the seven affected regions of Luzon. The timely delivery of assistance is paramount to the recovery and preservation of the affected families' food and livelihood security. If priority needs are not met with urgency, these families will likely suffer from prolonged food insecurity, which can in turn lead to economic deprivation, dependency on external food aid and the adoption of harmful coping strategies. The total needs in the Agriculture Sector amounted to approximately PhP16.51 billion (USD \$34.47 million), 83.5 percent of which would be required for the recovery of the sector.

Response: The FAO Emergency and Rehabilitation Team in close collaboration with the FAO Representative, the Department of Agriculture and I/NGOs, continues its effort to boost the emergency response and its focus on strengthening cluster as well as inter-cluster coordination. FAO is still participating in the WFP/VAM needs

assessment. One project proposal and two concept notes for emergency relief are awaiting favorable consideration from the Governments of Spain, Japan and Belgium.

Gaps and constraints: The unmet funding requirements for immediate relief assistance to the affected farmers remain a priority gap.

Logistics

Response: Air operations came to a close on 30 November with a total of 389 rotations (250.17 hours) carrying 2,394 passengers and 410 MT of food and non-food items for the Logistics Cluster since operations began on 15 October 2009. Logistics Cluster operations are slowing in pace and although limited surface transport to affected areas persists, no further cargo movement requests are being accepted. The mobile storage hub in Laoag has already been dismantled and the hub in Wallace will be dismantled this week. Both units will be transported to DSWD's National Resource Operational Centre (NROC) warehouse by the end of the week. The third mobile storage hub in Baguio will continue to support surface transport operations until it is dismantled in the coming fortnight. The Logistics Cluster no longer has a dedicated GIS officer in Manila but all Logistics Cluster maps are available up to A0 size through the WFP office in Manila. Maps can be downloaded from the Logistics Cluster website at www.logcluster.org/ph109a.

Emergency Telecoms

Response: Security VHF repeater installation in Tagatay has been completed and as a result coverage in Metro Manila and Region IV has improved significantly. VHF Coverage testing continues within metro Manila and Region IV. The old repeater infrastructure in Tagatay and Cabalan repeater sites has been removed. Tower installation at the Antipolo site continues and negotiations with authorities together with UNDSS regarding frequency licensing and importation of equipment are ongoing. The inventory of installed and stock equipment has been finalized. Backup power has been installed at the RCBC, Cabalan and Tagatay repeater sites. 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.

IV. Coordination

A joint GRP IM Network/IASC IM Network meeting has been called for 10 December at the NDCC with the objective of merging the networks and providing the IM component for the GRP's Disaster Management "Lessons Learned" workshop.

V. Funding

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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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