PHILIPPINES
Typhoon

Briefing note – 03 January 2020

Crisis Impact Overview

- 915,000 people are recorded as affected in the following areas : Eastern Samar, Leyte, Western Samar, San Jose (Occidental Mindoro), Malay (Aklan), Sigma (Capiz), Concepcion (Iloilo), Madridejos (Cebu), Borongan City, Tacloblan City. *No recent data concerning Kablog (Aklan) and Carles (Iloilo).*
- There are 21,322 families or 88,087 persons taking temporary shelter in 577 evacuation centres in Regions MIMAROPA, VI, VIII and CARAGA. 57,555 are currently in the EC in the areas previously mentioned. (DSWD 29/12/2019)
- At least 50 people have died and 362 injured as a result of the typhoon. (NDRRMC 02/01/2020)
- Typhoon destroyed 17,369 houses and damaged 206,815.
- Damages of infrastructures and agriculture have been reported.
- Urgent needs are reported by many sectors: shelter, livelihoods and basic needs, health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), migration, community disaster preparedness and risk reduction. (OCHA 31/12/2019).
- In the country, a total of 600,000 families or 2,500,000 persons are affected in 2,702 barangays in Regions MIMAROPA, VI, VIII and CARAGA.

Key priorities

915,000
affected people

225,000
damaged or destroyed houses

99,000
displaced people

National response capacity	Office of Civil Defence, Department of Health, Department of Social Welfare and Development
International response capacity	UN OCHA, IFRC, Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation and Several INGO which are conducting initial damages assessments

Anticipated scope and scale

- The full extent of the damage is yet to be determined.
- A magnitude 4.8 earthquake was also felt on 26 of December 2019 by the typhoon-affected areas surrounding of San Enrique, Iloilo. No damages from the earthquake have been reported. Strong winds, and storm surges are still expected, and rainfall can cause flooding and trigger landslides, resulting in more casualties, as well as in more damages to crops livelihoods, livestock, infrastructure and housing. (UN OCHA 27/12/2019)

Humanitarian constraints

- Restriction of movement has been reported as a result of the damage to the road infrastructure caused by the typhoon. Remote affected areas are currently hard to be accessed.
- The typhoon knocked out power and communication lines, uprooted trees, denuded farmlands and caused damage to infrastructure, health facilities, schools and homes made of light materials.

Sectoral needs

Shelter and NFIs

- Coordination of emergency shelter and distribution of shelter material are major needs among the affected population. In the areas previously mentioned, 57,555 families are reported to be in evacuation centres, while 41,230 families are displaced outside the camps.

WASH

- Emergency water supplies is necessary as the water supply systems in the affected area are damaged, affecting sources of potable water.
- Sanitation infrastructures, particularly at household level, have been heavily damaged and thousand of people have left with no toilets.

Health

- Typhoons in Philippines have pose a risk for the outbreak of infectious diseases, Such outbreaks are usually endemic to the affected area and not unfamiliar to the local medical personnel. Expected diseases include watery diarrhea, acute respiratory infections, measles, malaria and dengue. The environmental conditions of overcrowding, increased vector spread, lack of clean drinking water, and hygiene facilities have, in the past, contribute to these conditions.
- Acute respiratory infections, skin disease, acute watery diarrhea, and fever showed, in the detailed analysis of the conditions seen in health facilities in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan, the highest consultation rates for children under the age of five. Acute respiratory infections had the highest consultation rates for adults followed by wounds, hypertension, and skin disease. (PLOS, Current Disasters)

Food and livelihoods

- The Department of Agriculture report that the majority of agricultural losses are in the fisheries sector, where damage to fishponds, fish cages and pens, fishing boats and seaweed farming is impacting food security and the livelihood of over 43,000 fisherfolk in Region V, VI, VII, VIII and MIMAROPA. (OCHA 31/12/2019).

Protection

- Psychosocial support to the people living in the most affected areas has been identified as priority.
- Fear of further natural disasters leaves many families feeling unsafe in their own places of residence, increasing the number of people fleeing their home. Lack of adequate access to robust evacuation centers increases the risk posed by natural disasters. (Brookings Institution and IOM)

Aggravating factors

Recent natural disasters: The impact is aggravated by pre-existing vulnerabilities caused by previous typhoons in the affected areas. The Typhoon Phanfone traversed the same path as typhoon Haiyan in 2013 which caused severe flooding. Annually, an average of 22 tropical cyclones enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility of which around 6 to 7 cause significant damage. (OCHA 31/12/2019).

Displacement: The Philippines' location along the Pacific "typhoon belt" and "ring of fire" makes is particularly prone to typhoons, floods and earthquakes, which displace millions of people across the country each year. In the first half of 2019, about 572,000 new displacements were recorded, 484,000 by disasters and 88,000 by conflict and violence. (IDMC)

Economic situation: The country's poverty rate measured by the World Bank middle-income poverty line of US$3.20/day is estimated to have declined from 26% in 2015 to 20.8% in 2019, and further declining to 19.7% in 2020, and 18.7% in 2021. The long-term risks of Typhoons include a rise in unemployment and underemployment, increased poverty levels, and deteriorations in human capital indicators. The analysis of the Typhoon of 2013, shows that the increased cost of living, coupled with the loss of livelihoods and productive assets, have undercut the ability of families to meet their basic needs. (World Bank)

Track of Typhoon 24 – 29 Dec 2019

Source: UN OCHA (02/01/2020)