

American Red Cross

#### BACKGROUND

Typhoon Haiyan, locally known as Yolanda, made initial landfall in Eastern Samar, Philippines on November 8, 2013. Haiyan is possibly the most powerful storm ever recorded. The storm tracked across the Visayas region, bringing high winds, torrential rain and storm surge, impacting up to 13.2 million people. The Philippines is a highly disaster-prone country and has been hit by several major storms this year as well as a 7.2 magnitude earthquake in October. In many affected areas, predisaster poverty levels and malnutrition rates were already higher than the national average.

#### **KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- The American Red Cross has pledged an additional \$5 million to this response to support shelter activities, bringing the total commitment to the global Red Cross response to \$16 million, including \$1 million for in-kind staff and relief items.
- It also has thirteen disaster specialists currently deployed in support of this response.
- The Red Cross relief operation continues to

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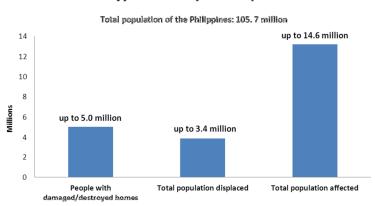
#### American Red Cross Response At a Glance

ıg ted	IFRC Appeal (\$78 million)	US \$13 million
Funding Committed	ICRC Appeal (\$16.4 million)	US \$2 million
	In-kind staff and goods	US \$1 million
	Assessment & Coordination	5 people *
	Relief Emergency Response Unit	5 people
lənc	IT/Telecoms Emergency Response Unit	2 people
Personnel	Shelter Cluster Geographic Information Systems	1 person
	Geographic Information Systems (remote support)	4 people**
	Restoring Family Links	91 chapters responding to tracing inquiries
SS	Jerry cans	20,000
Supplies	Mosquito nets	2,075
Sı	Tarps	2,075

\* Assessment and coordination personnel include specialists in relief, information management, shelter and emergency cash distribution.

\*\* Does not include more than 1000 remote volunteers leveraged through partnership with Humanitarian OpenStreetMap

scale up, with distributions of relief items ongoing. Red Cross teams on the ground have reached more than 36,000 families with food, and hygiene kits. They have also conducted health and hygiene promotion activities, reaching over 19,000 people.



#### Typhoon Haiyan's Impact

#### Data Source:

Philippine government, November 25, 2013. Figures continue to change as additional reports are verified. Reports on the number of people affected range from 10 million (Philippines National Dicaster Risk Reduction and Management Council) to 13.2 million (Philippines Department of Sociel Weifare and Development). Total population data from CIA World Factbook.

## CURRENT SITUATION

Estimates of the total number of people affected by the storm range from 10-14.6 million people, or 10-14 percent of the country's population. Approximately 3.4 million people are still displaced, most of whom are currently living outside of evacuation centers. Affected populations continue to be in need of food, shelter and basic community services.

• <u>Health</u>: Health efforts remain focused on primary and

reproductive health care, protection of affected populations and emotional support. According to national health officials, hypertension, acute respiratory infections and nutrition are top priorities. Better polio and measles vaccination coverage, as well as reproductive health kits, are also urgently needed

- <u>Water and Sanitation</u>: Although water supply is being restored in many locations, the capacity of humanitarian agencies on the ground is stretched in light of the large number of affected municipalities. Makeshift houses and settlements often lack access to proper sanitation and clean water, leaving people at increased risk for waterborne diseases. The largest evacuation centers in Tacloban are being prioritized for water and sanitation support.
- <u>Shelter and Relief Items</u>: According to the Philippine government, nearly 1.1 million houses have been damaged or destroyed. Emergency shelter needs remain significant, with an estimated 4 million people needing shelter materials to reconstruct their homes. Issues related to land and property rights have started to surface in severely affected areas. More than 1,000 evacuation centers remain open providing temporary shelter.
- <u>Food Security and Livelihoods</u>: The Philippine government reports that around 3 million people have received food assistance, including rice, high-energy biscuits and emergency food products. However, an estimated 2.5 million people remain in need of food assistance, and the Department of Agriculture currently estimates that 200,000 farming and fishing households, which play an integral part in providing food to local communities, have been affected by the storm.

#### **AMERICAN RED CROSS RESPONSE**

<u>Overview</u>: The American Red Cross has deployed a total of **13 disaster specialists** and has pledged or committed a total of **US \$16 million** to the global Red Cross response to Typhoon Haiyan.

- <u>Assessments and Coordination</u>: Five American Red Cross disaster specialists with expertise in shelter, relief distributions, emergency cash distributions and information management are on the ground in the Philippines.
- <u>Relief and Cash Transfer</u>: The American Red Cross relief team moved from Ormoc City to Tacloban to support ongoing needs assessments and the distribution of relief items.
- <u>Shelter</u>: The American Red Cross deployed a GIS specialist to support Shelter Cluster field assessments. Additionally, an American Red Cross shelter specialist is already on the ground assessing the shelter situation on Panay Island as part of the global Red Cross assessment and coordination team.
- <u>IT/Telecommunications</u>: Two American Red Cross specialists are on the ground providing IT and telecommunications support to the global Red Cross operation. One American Red Cross Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) voice & data satellite is up and running in Tacloban and another has been transferred to North Cebu.
- <u>Geographic Information Systems (GIS)</u>: To date, the American Red Cross, with support from Humanitarian OpenStreetMap volunteers, has created more than 200 operational maps in support of this response.
- <u>Restoring Family Links</u>: American Red Cross chapters continue to work with global Red Cross partners to reconnect family members separated by the typhoon.
- <u>Disaster Preparedness</u>: The American Red Cross, in partnership with the Asia Disaster Preparedness Center, currently has a long-term disaster preparedness program active in the Philippines (Negros and Manila) focused on building local first response capacity. It has been supporting this program for several years.

## GLOBAL RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT NETWORK RESPONSE

## Philippine Red Cross:

- The Philippine Red Cross has launched a massive humanitarian operation supported by the global Red Cross network. More than 6,200 volunteers have been engaged in supporting the response, which has included providing over 36,000 families with food and over 185,000 gallons of clean water. The Philippine Red Cross is also conducting health and hygiene promotion activities, reaching more than 19,000 people.
- The Philippine Red Cross has set up welfare desks that are providing psychosocial support services and helping to reconnect family members separated during the disaster. Since the storm, they have received more than 35,000 tracing inquiries.

# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC):

- The IFRC has deployed more than **110 people** to the affected areas to conduct assessments and provide health care, water and sanitation, relief supplies, logistics, shelter, IT/Telecommunications, cash transfer programming and communication with affected communities. Two Red Cross basic health care units are fully operational and in the course of two days, treated or admitted over 170 patients. More than 25 Red Cross and Red Crescent societies from around the world have supported this relief effort.
- The ICRC is providing food, household items, water and sanitation, health care, forensic services and family tracing assistance to affected communities.

## UNITED NATIONS AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

## United Nations (UN):

• The United Nations launched a revised Action Plan for US \$348 million to support typhoon survivors in the Philippines with emergency shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene, education, health, food, agriculture and livelihoods, protection, emergency telecommunications and coordination. All UN clusters have been activated, with UN, Red Cross and NGO partners working together to coordinate assistance.

## United States Government:

- The total United States government assistance to the Philippines is currently valued at US \$55.3 million, including \$20 million from USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), \$10 million from USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) and \$25.2 million from the U.S. Department of Defense.
- The U.S. government is providing logistical support, emergency food assistance, shelter, water and sanitation, as well as supporting humanitarian coordination, monitoring protection and security, and procuring and distributing relief items.

## Philippine Government:

- In addition to pre-emptively evacuating thousands of people in 22 provinces before the typhoon's arrival, the Philippine government has airlifted safe drinking water, relief supplies, and food commodities to Tacloban and other affected areas. The Philippine government is also assisting in registering displaced residents and providing emergency telecommunications and health services.
- The Philippine government has prioritized the restoration of primary and hospital health services, including the structural safety of hospitals, appropriate medical waste management and infection control.

The information in this report is compiled from a number of sources including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the U.S. Agency for International Development and involved Red Cross and Red Crescent national societies. The American Red Cross strives to provide the most accurate and timely information possible; however, all information should be considered conditional until a final report has been issued.



