



PHILIPPINES – TROPICAL STORM

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On January 12, USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) provided an additional \$299,694 through Plan International for emergency shelter; water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities; and other relief supplies to benefit approximately 15,000 people affected by Tropical Storm Washi, known locally as Sendong. In addition, USAID/OFDA, through Plan International, will provide temporary employment opportunities for people whose livelihoods have been disrupted by the tropical storm.
- The number of people residing in temporary evacuation centers continues to decrease as families return to their areas of origin or seek shelter with relatives, according to the Government of the Philippines (GPH) National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC). As of January 13, the number of people residing in evacuation centers had decreased by 63 percent to approximately 25,400 from a peak of nearly 69,300 people on December 25. Local authorities and relief agencies continue to provide all individuals in evacuation centers in Cagayan de Oro and Iligan cities with food, health, and WASH assistance, as well as other emergency relief supplies, according to the U.N.
- As the situation in areas affected by Tropical Storm Washi continues to improve, GPH officials have shifted focus from emergency relief assistance to early recovery. GPH officials are identifying durable shelter solutions for displaced people who previously resided in hazard-prone locations in Cagayan de Oro and Iligan cities that the GPH has deemed unfit for returns. To enable schools to restart, GPH officials are relocating people remaining in school-based evacuation centers to school yards or alternate locations.
- In response to reports of increased cases of suspected leptospirosis—a bacterial infection caused by exposure to contaminated water—in Cagayan de Oro and Iligan cities, the GPH has launched a large-scale information campaign and provided medicines and training on treatment of the disease to hospitals and health care personnel. Between January 1 and 7, GPH and the humanitarian community had provided leptospirosis vaccinations to more than 20,000 people and distributed informational materials about the disease, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
- To date, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$2 million in assistance for storm-affected populations in the Philippines, including nearly \$1.3 million in shelter assistance, more than \$309,000 for WASH activities, and \$330,000 for logistics support to aid the delivery of relief to flooded communities. USAID/OFDA’s Principal Regional Advisor for East Asia and the Pacific also deployed to the Philippines to conduct damage and needs assessments in affected areas, in coordination with the U.S. Embassy in Manila, USAID/Philippines, the NDRRMC, and relief agencies. In addition, USAID/Philippines has provided \$769,000 in assistance, including \$250,000 for small-scale infrastructure projects to help restart economic activity in affected areas, \$200,000 for emergency education assistance, and \$319,000 to rehabilitate school facilities. In collaboration with the GPH Department of Health, USAID/Philippines has also provided health awareness materials to ensure the well-being of flood-affected people residing in evacuation centers.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		Source
Total Number of Tropical Storm-Related Deaths	1,257	NDRRMC – January 13, 2012
Total Number of Individuals Missing	181	NDRRMC – January 13, 2012
Total Number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Evacuation Centers	25,370	NDRRMC – January 13, 2012
Houses Damaged or Destroyed	51,757	NDRRMC – January 13, 2012

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED IN FY 2012¹	
USAID/OFDA Assistance to the Philippines	\$1,998,602
USAID/Philippines Assistance to the Philippines	\$769,000
Total USAID Assistance to the Philippines	\$2,767,602

Context

- From December 16 to 18, Tropical Storm Washi passed over the southern Philippines, resulting in flash flooding and landslides, particularly affecting northern Mindanao. Rains associated with a subsequent low pressure system exacerbated flooding in affected areas.
- On December 20, the President of the Philippines, Benigno Aquino, declared a state of national calamity in Central Visayas, Zamboanga Peninsula, Northern Mindanao, Davao, and Caraga regions due to flash floods and landslides associated with Tropical Storm Washi.
- On December 19, U.S. Ambassador Harry K. Thomas, Jr., declared a disaster due to the effects of the storm. In response, USAID/OFDA provided an initial \$100,000 through USAID/Philippines to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) for the distribution of emergency WASH supplies, including water purification tablets, hygiene kits, and water containers, to the most affected people in Mindanao. USAID/OFDA has provided an additional nearly \$2 million for supplemental WASH supplies, as well as shelter, logistics, and economic recovery assistance.
- On December 22, the U.N. and the GPH initiated the cluster system—a mechanism to improve collaboration between the U.N., relief agencies, and donors during disasters—in Cagayan de Oro to ensure a coordinated response to the storm.

WASH

- As of January 12, the WASH Cluster—the coordinating body for WASH coordination activities in the Philippines—had overseen the distribution of more than 10,000 hygiene kits and 12,400 water containers to flood-affected people in Cagayan de Oro and Iligan cities, according to OCHA. With new USAID/OFDA funding, Plan International will continue efforts to provide safe drinking water by distributing water purification kits and promote hygiene by providing family hygiene kits.
- As of January 5, the Cagayan de Oro City Water District had restored the water supply to 95 percent of the eastern side of the city, with water trucking continuing in areas where repairs remain ongoing. According to the GPH, sufficient water remains available in affected areas and the GPH and other agencies are chlorinating and testing water in evacuation centers regularly.
- GPH is overseeing the delivery of water to people in Iligan City following disruption to the largest water supply pipelines in the city, which are under repair.

Shelter and Settlements

- GPH officials, in coordination with the Emergency Shelter Cluster and Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster, have identified Calaanan and Lumbia in Cagayan de Oro City as sites for the relocation of people displaced by flooding, including people who previously resided in hazard-prone areas. Cluster members have begun providing shelter and relief commodities at these locations, while GPH officials work through the process of securing long-term use of the land.
- The Government of Iligan City Task Force on Rehabilitation, Relocation, and Resettlement has developed a six-step Rehabilitation and Resettlement Plan to address the relocation of displaced individuals who previously resided in hazard-prone locations in Iligan. As of June 10, the Task Force had identified nearly 26 hectares of land to develop into resettlement sites and aimed to relocate displaced families to the land between June and August 2012, according to OCHA.

Health

- As of January 10, nearly 600 suspected cases of leptospirosis had been reported in flood-affected areas, according to OCHA. The infection had resulted in 16 deaths, eight in Cagayan de Oro City and eight in Iligan City. The Northern Mindanao Medical Center (NMMC) had treated 231 cases of leptospirosis, of which 77 were receiving treatment as of January 13, according to NDRRMC. NMMC had also treated approximately 230 cases of diarrhea.

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

The GPH Department of Health is monitoring the influx of patients to hospitals in Mindanao in case an increase of leptospirosis cases necessitates additional resources.

- Through mobile health teams, members of the Health Cluster had provided medical care to 300,000 flood-affected people, including 10,000 pregnant and lactating women, 20,000 children, and 5,000 family planning professionals as of January 12, according to OCHA.

Logistics

- USAID/OFDA partner the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) continues to increase warehouse capacity in Cagayan de Oro and Iligan cities and assist relief agencies with transport and delivery of relief supplies to affected areas. As of January 10, WFP had set up 3,000 square meters of warehouse space in the two cities to store commodities until they are ready for distribution.

International Assistance

- According to the GPH Department of Foreign Affairs, international donors, private companies, and other groups have provided an estimated \$22.4 million in cash, in-kind assistance, and pledges for the Tropical Storm Washi response to date.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE PHILIPPINES PROVIDED IN FY 2012¹

Implementing Partner	Activity	Location	Amount
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
CRS	WASH	Misamis Oriental Province	\$100,000
CRS	WASH, Shelter and Settlements	Misamis Oriental Province	\$798,908
International Organization for Migration	Shelter and Settlements	Misamis Oriental Province	\$600,000
Plan International	WASH, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Shelter and Settlements, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Lanao del Norte Province	\$299,694
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Misamis Oriental Province	\$200,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$1,998,602
USAID/PHILIPPINES ASSISTANCE			
Implementing Partner	Growth with Equity in Mindanao, Phase 3 (GEM-3) Program	Misamis Oriental and Lanao del Norte provinces	\$450,000
Implementing Partner	School and Education Assistance for Typhoon Affected Schools (SEATS) Project	Misamis Oriental and Lanao del Norte provinces	\$319,000
TOTAL USAID/PHILIPPINES			\$769,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PHILIPPINES IN FY 2012			\$2,767,602

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual committed amounts as of January 13, 2012.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for response efforts in the Philippines can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space);

can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.

- More information can be found at:

The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.

Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.