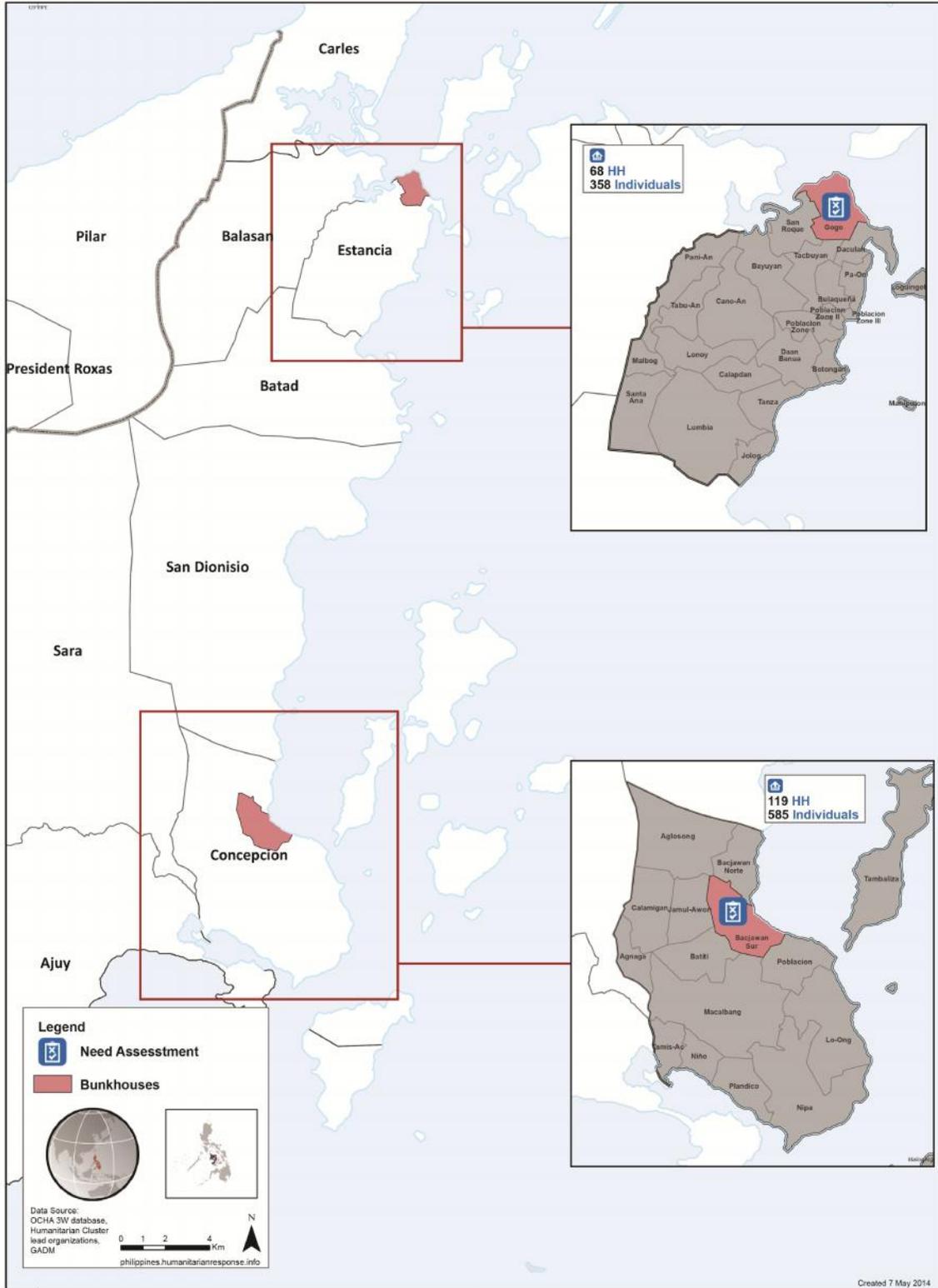


# **Multi Sectoral Joint Needs Assessment Report**

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Bunkhouses in Concepcion and Estancia  
Iloilo Province - Region VI - 30 April 2014



## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Background

Typhoon Haiyan affected 515,017 families in 84 municipalities across the Western Visayas region. While most affected families are expected to repair or reconstruct their homes in their places of origin, the municipalities of Estancia and Concepcion in Iloilo Province have opted for relocating populations living in hazard prone areas close to the seashore to more appropriate locations. While land is being identified for permanent resettlement, 20 bunkhouses with a total capacity of 240 families were built in Barangay Bacjawan in Concepcion Municipality and in Barangay Gogo in Estancia Municipality in order to relocate this population temporarily. As of 30 April, 171 families with a total 824 people were occupying the bunkhouses, where they are expected to stay for two to five years until permanent resettlement sites are ready.

### 1.2. Objective of Assessment

Humanitarian organizations conducted the multi-sectoral assessment in response to requests for assistance from the municipal authorities. The assessment is meant to inform further discussions with the municipal administrations on the support they require.

### 1.3. Methodology

Two teams including representatives from the health, education, food security and agriculture, early recovery and livelihood, child protection and camp coordination and camp management clusters were set up to conduct the assessment in both locations on 30 April 14. In Barangay Gogo, the team gathered information through two focus group discussions. The team that visited Barangay Bacjawan conducted interviews with bunkhouse residents using a standardized questionnaire that was developed beforehand. The findings of both assessments are presented separately in this report.

The information contained in this report primarily reflects the perspectives from the interviewed communities. As the municipal authorities did not participate in the assessment, the information will need to be validated with appropriate departments. The recommendations will also require to be discussed with the municipal authorities and eventual assistance by the humanitarian community will be based on a request from the same authorities.

### 1.4. Brief description of the bunkhouses

#### *Barangay Gogo*

Located in Estancia Municipality at around 3 km to the north of the town center, the complex includes ten bunkhouses of a total capacity of 120 families. It was built by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) as part of a project, developed before Yolanda, to relocate informal settlers and people living in hazard prone areas in the municipality. It was handed over to the municipal administration on 10 April 2014. As of 30 April, 68 families with 358 individuals were occupying the bunkhouses, of whom 52 families with 239 individuals were present at the time of the visit. Most of this population originates from Barangay Botongon that was affected by the oil spill in November 2013. A few families were already living on the site prior to the construction of the bunkhouses.

#### *Barangay Bacjawan*

Located in Concepcion Municipality at one kilometer from the town center, the ten bunkhouse complex also has capacity of 120 families. It was handed over by DPWH to the Municipality of Concepcion in 28 February 2014. It currently provides temporary accommodation to 119 families (585 individuals) who lost their houses on the seashore as a result of Yolanda.

## 2. Assessment of Barangay Gogo Bunkhouses, Estancia Municipality

Information was collected through two focus group discussions were conducted at the Gogo bunkhouses by two different teams with the support of a local NGO for approximately two hours.

The first group included 13 participants, seven men and six women, aged between 30 and 80 and originating from Barangay Gogo. The second group included approximately 40 individuals, most of them women, from Barangay Botongon. Their age ranged between 15 and 60 years.

For each group, the facilitator introduced the team, explained the purpose of the assessment and encouraged participation. The team acknowledged that, because of the high number of participants in one of the group, the discussion could not cover all issues in-depth. It is also acknowledged that some participants might not have been able to express their personal opinions.

### 2.1. Livelihood

Most people are fishermen. Before Yolanda, some were earning an average 1,000 pesos per day in peak season and 200 pesos per day during lean season. Others were employed as construction workers, tricycle drivers or mechanics. A few among those who have been living in Gogo are farmers and used to grow cassava, sweet potato, fruits, bamboo and trees. They were reportedly self-sufficient. The majority of the women were drying fish, which they were selling at the market or in the fishing port. Some had small businesses in the form of sari-sari stores and a couple of women said they were providing services such as manicure and laundry. The table below summarizes the average daily income per profession before Yolanda:

Profession	Income (PHP)
Selling Dried Fish	200
Fishing	200-300
Potpot	150-200
Diver	100-150
Sari-sari Store	150-180
Manicuring	200
Referee	140-150
Washerwoman	150-200

All respondents indicated that their incomes are significantly lower since Yolanda. Most fishermen lost their fishing boats and are forcing to rent boats at rates that depend on their daily catchment. While some have resumed their occupation after receiving financial or material assistance to repair their assets, most of the respondents have turned into manual laborers relying on available work opportunities. They usually earn an income of Php100-150 per day of labor.

All respondents believe they have the necessary skillset in order to push through with their livelihoods.

### 2.2. Food Security

Before Yolanda, people were usually eating rice, fish, shellfish, canned goods, miscellaneous fruits and vegetables, and chicken. Beef and pork were only bought when they had a higher income than usual. They were able to eat three times a day and, when money was available, they could have an additional meal (afternoon snack). Food was primarily purchased from the local market or coming from their own catch (for the fisher folks).

Respondent indicated their diet has been reduced since Yolanda. They rely on dilis, a variety of small fish, which is the most affordable. Other food items include rice, vegetables, dried fish and food provided by the government and humanitarian organisations. They usually eat two meals a day, giving priority to

their children so that they have regular meals to the extent possible. Respondents said that backyard gardening would allow them to complement their diet and would appreciate vegetable seeds.

Food is purchased from the market or from vendors visiting the bunkhouse for those who cannot afford going to the market. Respondents said there has been an increase in food prices after Typhoon Yolanda as illustrated on the table below:

Food Item	Quantity	Prices BEFORE Typhoon Yolanda (PHP)	Prices AFTER Typhoon Yolanda (PHP)
Rice	1 kilogram	40	50-60
Squash	1 slice	10	20
Egg	1 dozen	50-60	70-90
Dilis (Small Fish)	1 cache	20	40
Pork	1 kilogram	150	200-220

Bunkhouse residents are not allowed to prepare food or cook near their rooms to prevent fire and maintain cleanliness. Half of the respondents prepare their food at the communal kitchen and the other half share a kitchen with relatives. The communal kitchen is adjacent to the latrines, which is source of concern regarding hygiene and comfort.

Respondents suggested that children have thinner arms and rotund bellies compared to before Yolanda, raising concerns over their nutritional status.

### 2.3. WASH

Respondents said they have enough water for drinking, cooking and daily hygiene. The only time when drinking water was in short supply was when muddy roads due to rainfall made it difficult for water delivery.

Drinking water is clean and has no smell. Only half of the respondents boil water for drinking. The majority of them use a piece of cloth to filter their drinking water. Water is stored in bladders, water containers and jerry cans.

Respondents said they have sufficient supply of soap from the emergency distribution following Yolanda. No cases of water-borne diseases have been reported.

Communal latrines and bathing facilities are available for each gender. Some respondents say they do not feel safe using latrines due to the existence of gaps between the door and the door frame allows people to peek through and the lack of adequate lighting. In addition, some residents do not adhere to the gender segregation. For this reason, some women and children go to latrines/bathing facilities in pairs so that one of them can stand as a guard.

Garbage is disposed into a common trash bin. However, it has not been collected since the beginning of April. Garbage accumulation tends to become a breeding ground for flies. Stagnant water from the rain could serve as breeding sites for mosquitoes.

### 2.4. Health

According to respondents, most common illnesses are acute upper respiratory tract infections. Over the counter medication and herbal medications are generally to alleviate the symptoms. Some children have had symptoms, such as coughing, running nose, fever and eye redness. It is feared the extreme heat during summer may predispose the most vulnerable, such as the very young and the elderly to heat stroke or dehydration.

Respondents said that they consult at the Barangay Health Station (BHS) and, if there is a need for referral to a higher level facility, they go to the RHU in Estancia or to Malbog hospital. The midwife assigned to the area visits the bunkhouses once a week. IOM also conducts medical consultation once a week. In collaboration with the LGU and the local medical doctor, UNFPA conducted a reproductive health medical mission (RHMM), which provided information to pregnant and lactating women and distributed dignity kits. Overall, the respondents say they are satisfied with the medical assistance they have been receiving. In the meantime, some expressed the view that there is poor access to the BHS and that, in case of a medical emergency, there could be a delay in receiving assistance.

## 2.5. Education

All parents who participated in the discussion said their school-aged children will go back to school once the school year resumes in June. They will be enrolled at the Gogo Elementary School, which is only 10 minutes away. The parents said they have limited resources to buy school materials for their children. They also noted there are no learning facilities in the bunkhouse area and wish to have one so that their children are able to catch up academically.

## 2.6. Child Protection

Respondents said they do not feel their children are safe because of hazards, such as proximity to a steep slope and lack of electricity and security at night. In order to minimize insecurity, there was an offer from the *Sangguniang Bayan* to provide tanod watch.

In almost all families, children share bedroom with parents. Children are reportedly going around to collect scraps to sell and make money.

There are no available child-friendly spaces.

## 2.7 Ranking of community concerns

Community concerns can be ranked as follows:

Livelihood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainable livelihood is a concern, especially for the fishermen whose boats were damaged by Yolanda.</li> <li>Women expressed interest in small scale business and planting vegetables around the bunkhouse.</li> </ul>
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proximity of the communal kitchen to the latrines should be addressed.</li> <li>Waste management/garbage collection</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents deliberately use over the counter medications, like Neozep and Amoxicillin to treat cough and colds without doctor's prescription, including for children.</li> </ul>
Child Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Issues, such as unsafe playground and children going around the area to collect scrap to sell, should be addressed.</li> </ul>

### 3. Assessment of Barangay Bacjawan, Concepcion Municipality

Relatively few people were present at the time of the assessment as most residents were pursuing their livelihood in the municipality. While it represented a constraint to capture the full picture of the situation, it indicated that many families have resumed their occupation or found alternative ones. In addition, the absence of WASH and nutrition specialists sectors did not allow for having a full understanding of the situation in these sectors.

#### 3.1. Livelihood

Many household heads are casual laborers, the largest part of them in the fishery sector. They earn an average income of 100 Php per day. Many families have recourse to loans from their families or from their employers to cover their needs. A few women heads of households said they are expecting financial support from the government or the humanitarian community to start small businesses, such as petty trading, sari-sari stores, poultry breeding and fishery-related activities.

- Action: Discuss with MSWD the livelihood interventions they are envisaging to provide and inquire over the need for any support.

#### 3.2. Food Security

All respondents indicated their families have regular food supply. Most families appear to have enough food for at least a week. Food is most commonly purchased at the local market in Concepción.

Families with two parents are generally self-sufficient, while single parent households are in a more precarious situation and have recourse to coping strategies, such as 1) consuming less preferred food, 2) limiting the portion or frequency of meals, or 3) borrowing food or money. A couple of families were seen growing vegetable close to the bunkhouse and raising chickens.

Rice is the most common consumed food, which many respondents eat three times per day. Vegetable and fish come in second and third positions. On average, they are consumed 6 - 7 times and 4 - 5 times per week, respectively. Dairy products, such as milk, are consumed on average of 4 times per week while fruits and meat are consumed only once per week. Fruits are purchased at rare occasions due to their high price. Imported apples and oranges are cheaper than local fruits and most commonly purchased.

All families received a food assistance package from DSWD/NFA upon settlement in the bunkhouse.

The bunkhouses are equipped with common cooking areas near the bunkhouses. However, some families prefer to use their own charcoal stoves and cook in front of their bunk units.

- Action: No action required.

#### 3.3. WASH

Water from a borehole located in the camp premises and from shallow wells in the close by valley is the primary water source for the bunkhouse residents. While water for cooking is sufficient, water quantity is not adequate for other domestic purposes. Some respondents said they have been buying water for drinking. Few reported boiling water for drinking.

The bunkhouses are equipped with communal toilets. Each toilet caters for 50 people in average. Toilets and bathing facilities for men and women are separate. Water supply at toilets and bathing points is inadequate. Half of the respondents said they are washing their hands after using toilets.

No waste dumping site is available. Waste is usually dumped in the outskirts of the bunkhouse. Limited livestock rearing practice was seen within the bunkhouse.

Action:

- Discuss the need for a proper WASH assessment with the municipal administration and the CCCM cluster.

### 3.4. Health and Nutrition

A Rural Health Midwife (RHM) is available, who provides immunization and ante-natal care on a monthly basis (the midwife also cover three other areas). No medical doctor is assigned to the bunkhouse. Medical cases are first attended by the Barangay Health Workers and then referred to the RHM. In case the RHM is not present, residents have recourse to the Barangay Health station at Bacjawan Sur, which is ten minutes away. IOM has had medical activities and is planning to establish a temporary health facility. [that is available now] .

Most common health concerns from the perspective of the respondents are: pulmonary tuberculosis (some cases are multi-drug resistant), skin infections, such as impetigo, acute respiratory infection, and trauma cases from road accidents. Respondents said that there were no reports of sexually transmitted infections and dengue. One case of adult measles was reported in the municipality, but not in the bunkhouse.

Actions:

- Regular medical missions to the bunkhouse led by the RHU and to be supported by UNFPA, IOM, etc (bi monthly basis).
- Conduct awareness sessions on health issues.
- Ensure the referral system from the Barangay Health Workers to the Rural Health Midwife and the Bacjawan Rural Health Unit is functioning well..

### 3.5. Education

Most children are enrolled at the Concepcion Central Elementary School (CES), which is a couple of kilometers away and the Bacjawan Sur Primary School that is just opposite the bunkhouse. Transport to the Concepcion CES costs Php10 per person/one way.

The Bacjawan Sur Primary school accommodates kindergarten and grades 1-2 with one teacher. It has two classrooms with toilets and hand washing facilities. However, the water system is not functional and water has to be fetched from a nearby source.

All children interviewed expressed positive attitudes towards going to school and being waiting for the school's re-opening. There were no visible signs of trauma related to the typhoon. Learning materials and uniforms are the biggest concerns for both parents and children.

A Day Care Center (DCC) is available next to the Bacjawan primary school. It is a standard DSWD (KALAHAI-CIDSS) DCC. It has furniture like tables, chairs, cabinets and some learning materials. It has separate toilets for boys and girls and hand washing facilities. Like the school, the water system is not functional. The kitchen of the DCC was damaged by the typhoon. As the Day Care Worker was not available at the time of the assessment, no information could not be collected on the number of enrolled children (this number should be available at the MSWDO).

Actions:

- Provide school materials and learning resources before reopening of schools.
- Renovate the water system at the primary school and Day Care Center.

### 3.6. Child Protection

There were no reports of separated or missing child in the bunkhouse. Only one child was found unaccompanied, as both his parents were working away from the bunkhouse. There were no reports of child abuse or exploitation.

Two open areas are being used as playgrounds, one of them with an improvised basketball ring.

A few places, such as land slopes and stairs, were observed, which could be slippery during rainfall and prone to accidents. The bunkhouses have no fencing.

#### Actions:

- Consider establishing child friendly spaces and recreational facilities;
- Consider constructing proper stairs within the facility;
- Consider fencing the bunkhouses at sensitive locations.