TYPHOON KAMMURI (TISOY)

Metro Manila
Legazpi City
Sorsogon City
Naga City

10pm 02 Dec
175 km/h

11am 03 Dec
140 km/h

8am 03 Dec
150 km/h

4am 03 Dec
155 km/h

58,500
Destroyed

336,000
Partially Damaged

254,000
DAMAGED HOUSES

1.8 M
AFFECTED POPULATION

→ 96,800
PEOPLE INSIDE and OUTSIDE EVACUATION CENTRES

10pm 02 Dec
175 km/h

8am 03 Dec
150 km/h

4am 03 Dec
155 km/h
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Rapid Assessment of Impact and Needs (RAIN) is a joint undertaking by the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) and the Philippines Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), under the overall leadership of OCD. Consolidated by OCHA on behalf of OCD and the HCT, the analysis provides a shared understanding of the most pressing needs of vulnerable people and communities, living in the areas most affected by the typhoon. The assessment represents a consolidated evidence base and helps inform government-led strategic response planning.

CRISIS OVERVIEW

On 2 December, Typhoon Kammuri (locally named Tisoy) made landfall as a Category 3 typhoon near the city of Gubat in Sorsogon province, with maximum sustained winds of 215 kilometers per hour. On 3 December, the eye of the typhoon carried sustained winds of up to 175 kph hour and gustiness of up to 240 kph as the system moved westward, picking up speed and making three subsequent landfalls across central Philippines, in Masbate, Marinduque and Oriental Mindoro, before exiting the Philippine Area of Responsibility in the morning of 5 December. During this period, the storm cut across a large swathe of territory from North Samar to Mindoro, an estimated 14 million people are within the 100km radius from the typhoon track. The combination of high winds, sustained heavy rainfall and storm surge have prompted over 12 provinces and areas to declare a state of calamity, enabling access to emergency funding to aid response and recovery efforts.

SCALE AND MAGNITUDE OF THE HUMANITARIAN IMPACT

According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) figures as of 10 December, more than 1,800,000 people were affected by Typhoon Tisoy in about 3,250 barangays in Regions 3, 5, 8, CAR and CARAGA. In the immediate aftermath, almost 450,000 took refuge in 2,600 evacuation centers while 23,000 were hosted by relatives and friends. As of 10 December, most people have returned back to their homes, while about 87,000 are taking temporary shelter in 335 evacuation centers. Authorities also confirmed that five people died, while 332 people were injured because of the typhoon.

Initial reports indicate that some 58,000 houses were destroyed and about 336,000 damaged across nine regions on the typhoon’s path with houses made from light materials being hit the hardest.

Typhoon Tisoy also affected schooling of almost 15 million learners as more than 890 municipalities and cities cancelled classes in public and private schools at all levels, including Metro Manila. Schooling of many learners will be further affected since 100 schools were subsequently used as evacuation centres. UNICEF estimates some 300,000 children living in affected areas may be at risk and in need of assistance.

Interruption of power supplies and telecommunication was reported in 300 areas in six regions, with majority already restored as of 10 December, but not satisfactorily in all areas as noted in assessments. Flooding occurred in almost 200 areas in Western Visayas, Bicol region and Calabarzon, just south of Metro Manila. Air travel was severely affected as all four terminals at the Manila’s Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) were closed for 12 hours, resulting in cancellation of over 500 domestic and international flights. The terminal at Legazpi city airport was heavily damaged though local authorities already restored operations.

To date, the Government (DSWD, OCD and LGUs) has provided some US$600,000 (30.7 million PhP) worth of immediate relief assistance to the affected families.
BICOL AS THE MOST AFFECTED REGION

Typhoon Tisoy hit particularly hard in Bicol region (Region 5), with over 1,200,000 of people affected and more than 256,000 houses partially or completely damaged. Based on the 2018 statistics, 27 per cent of people in Bicol live below the poverty line and their main economic activity is fishing and farming. Prior to Tisoy, there were already pre-existing vulnerabilities of the affected population, particularly among low income families residing in high-risk areas and in houses made of light materials. The geographical location makes the region vulnerable to natural emergencies and many areas of the region have been impacted by Typhoon Nina in 2017 and Typhoon Usman in 2018, which has geared the communities to adopt emergency preparedness and response strategies that rely primarily on their internal resources.

As one of the most disaster-prone areas, local authorities in Bicol Region have made significant investment in disaster preparedness in the last few years. With pre-emptive evacuations and effective early warning systems, the region achieved its main objective of minimizing the number of casualties. Nevertheless, with 80% of population living in rural areas and the largest component of the region's economy being agriculture as well as commercial fishing, livelihoods and resilience have been severely affected by the typhoon.

IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE AND LIVELIHOODS

According to the Department of Agriculture, the initial estimate of losses caused by Typhoon Tisoy to the agriculture sector is some $56.8 million (PhP2.9 billion), out of which $32 million from damage to high-value crops like mango, bananas and papayas, while affecting lives and income of some 40,000 farmers in five regions. With early harvest of crops in several areas anticipated to be on the path of the typhoon, greater damage was to a large extent prevented. For example in Nabua, Camarines Sur, 70 per cent of rice was already harvested before the typhoon stroke. Nevertheless, 14,600 hectares of land in Calabarzon and Bicol Region was damaged, with an estimated production loss of some 18,500 metric tons.

KEY FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS

The assessments in 19 municipalities and cities of Bicol region largely confirmed that good preparedness measures were place before landfall and that the local, sub-national and national authorities were not overwhelmed by the extent of damage and needs in the affected municipalities.

Many who were pre-emptively evacuated, started returning back to their respective homes within 48 hours after the typhoon's landfall. Though most evacuation centres have been decamped by the time of the assessments, there are still several families living in them or staying with host families, mainly as they were unable to return due to heavily damaged or destroyed houses and prevailing flood waters.

The assessments confirmed that farming and fishing communities living in coastal areas as well as those living in the remote hilly areas were most affected by the typhoon. Their exposed location, combined with the use of lightweight construction materials, made their houses very exposed to natural disasters. Fishing communities, living on seashores and lakeshores who lost their boats and fishing businesses as well as farming communities with heavily damaged crops and plantations, are in need of livelihood and early recovery assistance.

The urge to repair existing damage, coupled with the lack of financial resources and technical knowledge, results in affected families building back to its previous state, rather than better and safer. Primary concern of affected families now is to repair their houses first and then focus on recovering their agricultural and fishing activities as soon as possible. Affected families would also look for alternative sources of income, especially those who have lost their livelihoods, and children too might need to support with livelihoods...
which may prevent them from going back to school. Indebtedness within poor households will increase.

Low-income households living in houses made from light materials are the most affected as majority of them lost their houses. For example, in Magallanes municipality, Sorsogon, majority of the affected population from 34 barangays are dependent on fishing industry. Out of which, 21 barangays are located along exposed coastlinelines heavily affected by storm surge, causing major damage to houses and fishing boats. The houses were washed-out, especially those made of light materials, fishing gears were buried under sands, and boats were severely dilapidated. As a precaution measures, some coastal communities in Sorsogon and Albay indicated permanent and mandatory relocation as a solution, though no area has been declared as a 'No Build Zone' at the time of the assessment. For example, local authorities in Prieto Diaz, a 5th class LGU in Sorsogon, plan to relocate some coastal communities and have already identified two hectares of land which they are in the process of purchasing. The situation of some families is further exacerbated as they have not yet received shelter assistance allocated by the authorities for Typhoon Nina (2017).

**NO MAJOR ACCESS ISSUES**

All assessed areas could be reached either through the normal road network or alternate routes. In a few areas having difficulty with road access, sea access is available. Some roads were temporarily cut off due to landslides, downed power lines and trees, which have been largely cleared and no gaps are expected. It is recommended that relief items be given priority in use of ferry services, especially in Matnog port, Sorsogon, where there are some backlogs causing a queue of 9km.

48 hours after landfall, businesses and government services had largely resumed, including electricity and telecommunications in the cities. In the municipalities and barangays visited by the assessment teams, electricity and telecommunications, however, have not yet been fully restored while the municipal and barangay officials had no information when they may be restored.

**COORDINATION MECHANISMS PUT IN PLACE**

Assessments largely confirmed at present most humanitarian needs and any gaps could be covered within the current capacity of the local governments at the moment as well as that the government coordination structure from the national to local levels had proved to be efficient in providing early warning and employing response preparedness measures. At the national level, the NDRRMC activated the Pre-Disaster Risk Analysis (PDRA) to better understand the risks brought by Typhoon Tisoy and review the NDRRMC Preparedness and Response Plans. This process cascaded down to LGU levels.

The Philippines Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), composed of locally-based UN agencies, national and international NGO networks and the private sector, was made aware of the government response plans through the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) who participated in the PDRA meetings.

Immediately in the aftermath of Typhoon Tisoy, regional and local
strategies such as neglect, child marriage and child labour. Direct observation indicated protection risks in overcrowded evacuation centers, with no electricity, limited water supply and little privacy for evacuees.

Emergencies increase the risk of GBV as protection mechanisms, including law and order, and community and family networks are weakened. While there are no reported cases of gender-based violence in the immediate aftermath of the typhoon, pre-existing incidences of sexual and physical violence often escalate in emergencies. For example, the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer of Sorsogon reported of 240 cases of various forms of violence against women and children from January 2018 to May 2019.

The extent of the emergency also poses mental health and psychosocial issues. Reduced income due to loss of livelihood and shelter may increase the risk of the population experiencing early symptoms of psychological distress. The affected population, especially children and the most vulnerable ones, need immediate psychosocial support services.

EARLY RECOVERY TO BUILD RESILIENCE

Responses across all clusters should be carried out with a strong development and climate change adaptation component as most issues are pre-existing and will most likely occur again with the next natural calamity.

As a general observation, self-recovery is largely practiced by affected population as families are returning to their homes and using salvaged materials to rebuild and repair their houses. There is a need for early recovery interventions on livelihood, particularly for families with totally and partially damaged houses who are incurring debts to start their own repair efforts. Unmet needs for livelihood might exacerbate poverty and trigger more needs.
The urge to repair existing damage, coupled with the lack of financial resources and technical knowledge, also leads the affected families to build back the way it was before, re-establishing previous vulnerabilities, rather than better and safer, which would make them more protected and better prepared for the next typhoon season. Those providing assistance, either from the government or non-government organizations, should consider focusing on augmenting communities’ capacity to self-recovery and making them more resilient.

LGUs with coastal, lake and riverine communities are encouraged to initiate discussions on resettlement planning as a possible long-term solution to relocate people out of harm’s way to higher and safer locations. An incentive mechanism could be formulated to encourage at-risk population to resettle.

Livelihoods, agriculture and fishing sector should explore insurance and other financial mechanisms as a climate change adaptation measure. Local authorities and private sector actors should consider: increasing the number of rice and corn farmers enrolled in crop insurance products as a risk transfer mechanism; piloting weather index-based insurance for rice lands; using the Coconut Levy Funds for the rehabilitation of the local coconut industry that was successively impacted by typhoons; and diversifying integrated farming technologies under coco lands, including livestock production to increase and diversify farmers’ income.

**EARLY ACTION INTERVENTIONS ANTICIPATING THE IMPACT OF THE TYPHOON**

As part of the forecast-based financing initiatives, humanitarian partners closely monitored the weather system with PAGASA and used impact-based forecasting and the Joint Analysis of Disaster Exposure to identify the provinces most likely to be severely impacted by the typhoon. The approach used wind speed forecast which was overlaid with data on indicators such as building types, poverty and past impact of typhoons.

WFP conducted a test activation of an early cash distribution throughout November 2019 and was able to complete distribution of $46 (PhP 2,300) to 1,000 households in the Province of Sorsogon on 28 November, days before typhoon's landfall in the municipalities of Bulan and Pilar. Based on the initial feedback from beneficiaries, the cash payouts were used to purchase food, non-food items and additional livelihoods to prepare for the typhoon season. During the Typhoon Tisoy, many had taken the items with them to the evacuation centres.

The Philippine Red Cross, supported by the German Red Cross, implemented a number early action interventions up to three days before the landfall to support local population in the Bicol region, including early harvesting of Abaca trees in Catanduanes, and evacuating livestock and strengthening shelter in Camarines Norte.

The impact of early action interventions, including anticipatory financing, is yet to be better understood in the context of sudden-onset calamities as well as its potential to improve the resilience of local population regularly exposed to natural disasters.

**CASH AS A VIABLE AND PREFERRED RESPONSE MODALITY**

General observation is that markets are now largely functional and accessible, but in some areas prices of basic food commodities, such as rice, have increased. The liquidity of households with main sources of livelihood in farming and fishing has been disrupted which is affecting their purchasing power. Responding to recurrent natural calamities is also increasing indebtedness of households, exposing their chronic vulnerability as substantive part of their income is spent on house repairs each year.

In municipality of Barcelona, Sorsogon, many families reported heavy reliance on overseas remittances, and the lack of electricity and cellphone signals have made it difficult for these families to access money sent by their relatives from Manila and overseas.
Affected population in all four provinces expressed their preferred modality of assistance would be cash and materials for immediate repairs, such as shelter repair kit complementing multipurpose cash grants. Modalities of cash-for-work and cash-for-food, linked with other critical interventions like nutrition, should be explored to support vulnerable families. Cash interventions would also strengthen local economies and offer a much needed liquidity to the market.

**ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY**

The Office of Civil Defense accepted the offer of the HCT to support them in the conduct of the Rapid Assessment of Impact and Needs (RAIN). The RAIN is a joint undertaking by the OCD and HCT, under the overall leadership of OCD. While OCD, national and Region 5, provided leadership and guidance on the geographic areas to be covered by the assessment, they have also facilitated the introduction, visits and interviews of relevant local chief executives and key informants by the assessment teams.

The RAIN was undertaken in the provinces of Albay, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes and Sorsogon in Region V (Bicol) from 6 to 7 December 2019. Due to logistical constraints, the province of Masbate was not covered in the assessment of the Bicol Region. But information on the impact of Typhoon Tisoy in Masbate, particularly in Burias and Ticao islands was made available to OCD 5 by OCHA with Plan International who did the actual field assessment.

RAIN does not include other affected regions of IV-A, IV-B and VIII and should be understood within the context of the geographic areas it covers. It does not represent the full extent of the impact and needs, but rather a snapshot of the needs in the most-affected areas.

A total of 74 people from 31 organizations participated in RAIN, including in-country international and national non-governmental organizations, private sector, and UN agencies, forming four teams that undertook the assessments. Four staff from the OCD national office participated in the assessment, coordinating with the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices (PDRRMOs) to determine the locations of the most-affected localities. The joint OCD-HCT assessment teams covered 47 barangays (villages/administrative level 4), covering rural and urban communities, from one city and 18 municipalities in four provinces. Embedded in each provincial teams were sectoral experts who provided guidance on the collection of information through interviews and on writing of debriefing reports. Sixteen vehicles from participating organizations were utilized by the assessment teams for the conduct of this activity.

Using the HCT 72-hour rapid needs assessment form, teams collected data through a combination of key informant interviews, focus-group discussions and direct observations. Assessors interviewed key informants per barangay, targeting the affected population and people who held specific sectoral knowledge, e.g. government officials, barangay health workers, teachers. A debriefing form was used for each of the 19 city/municipalities to provide a city/municipal level overview on the severity, main findings on humanitarian needs and recommendations. The completed debrief forms are based on all available information gathered by assessment team members. The collected data from the barangays were then aggregated to municipal (admin 3) and provincial (admin 2) levels, cleaned, summarized and compared with findings from secondary data and other assessments.

Photo credit: Jhun Carual/World Vision
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<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Barangays</th>
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<td>Guilid, Binatagan</td>
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<td>Tambo, Sta. Cruz</td>
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<td>Marigodon, Basicao, Coastal</td>
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<td>Lulusuan, Pulang, Daga, Siramag</td>
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<td>Binanuhan, Dao, Sapa, Banuyo</td>
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<td>Sorsogon</td>
<td>Prieto Diaz</td>
<td>Diamante, Perlas, Rizal, Brillante, Topaz</td>
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Assessed Areas

Typhoon Kammuri (Tisoy) Track
Schools in the affected areas were initially used as evacuation centres, but the majority of them were quickly decamped after the typhoon had passed. The only evacuees remaining in schools, government buildings or other designated evacuation centres are those whose houses have been destroyed. The assessment identified that at least 57,061 teaching/learning materials and 1,493 computers are damaged across affected schools in Albay and Sorsogon. Only a few schools are still used as evacuation centres, however, many have been damaged, which highlights the need for temporary learning spaces.

The School DRR Coordinators and designated School Guidance Counsellor have been trained in facilitating Psychological First Aid (PFA) and are planning to conduct PFA sessions with affected children. Schools that were flooded during the typhoon are currently cleared of debris. Classes in Catanduanes island have resumed on 5 December, and classes in other provinces are expected to resume on 9 December. Most affected schools are considering to cancel Christmas celebrations due to the current situation.

Transmitting and consolidating data, especially in areas located in coastal or island communities, remains a challenge due to power outages and disruption of telecommunication services. Data on Child Development Centers (CDCs), Alternative Learning System (ALS) Community Learning Centers (CLCs), as well as disaggregated data on the affected population by age, gender, and information on learners with disabilities are lacking.

**Recommendations:**
- Provide school supplies to children whose houses have been destroyed.
- Provide Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS), particularly to Buhi National High School (16 out of 19 classrooms were destroyed) and Puland Daga Elementary School (all classrooms were damaged) in Camarines Sur.
Local Government Units and affected communities started to clear debris along the roads and their private lots after the typhoon had passed. Restoration of electric power is expected to take more time, because specialized personnel and equipment is needed to repair the damaged utility poles. The majority of the destroyed shelters were made out of light materials, such as bamboo, coconut timber, and GI sheets and were located in high risks areas along the coastlines, near riverbanks and lakes, and upland areas. Even houses near seawalls were destroyed or damaged by storm surges and coastal flooding, because the typhoon made landfall during high tide.

Affected families are currently repairing or constructing homes with makeshift materials, however they are still located in high-risk areas and are likely to be impacted again by another typhoon. LGUs with susceptible communities near the coast, lakes or rivers are encouraged to initiate discussions on resettlement and relocation as a long-term solution to move people to safer locations. Such plans should be paired with appropriate incentive mechanisms. It is recommended that LGUs have an approved Comprehensive Land (and Water) Use Plan as a framework for spatial planning. Local Chief Executives of the affected municipalities Prieto Diaz, Pilar (Sorsogon province), Bato and Buhi (Camarines Sur) expressed that they would prefer to relocate affected coastal barangays to safer grounds instead of providing shelter assistance in high-risk areas.

Recommendations:

- National and/or Provincial Governments should consider to provide incentives to LGUs to support the implementation of resettlement/relocation plans for increased resilience of affected communities.

- Provide cash assistance to affected farmers and fishers whose cash crops (e.g. coconuts and bananas) were severely impacted [short-term].

- Increase the number of rice and corn farmers enrolled in Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC)’s crop insurance products as a risk transfer mechanism [baseline data required].

- Pilot weather index-based insurance for rice lands within 20 kilometer radius of the Legazpi Synoptic Station.

- Unlock the Coconut Levy Funds for the rehabilitation of the local coconut industry which has suffered successive impacts by typhoons Nina in 2017, Usman in 2018 and Tisoy in 2019.

- Support diversification of integrated farming technologies, including livestock production to diversify and potentially increase farmer’s income.

- Identify and implement off-resource alternative livelihood projects for both fishing and farming communities.
In 11 out of 19 assessed municipalities, food security of households is a top priority. According to DSWD, families with totally damaged houses, a total of 30,266 for Region V (23,231 families for Albay, 6,522 for Sorsogon, 512 for Camarines Sur, & 1 for Masbate) are prioritized for food distribution. In addition, PSWDOSorsogon provided cooking equipment, rice and cash to set up Community Kitchens before and after the typhoon to serve evacuees and stranded people.

111,744 individuals/27,342 families at evacuation centres are also in need of food assistance. It is expected that food prices will increase in the coming weeks, which means that households will have reduced capacity to purchase food, in particular as many families are currently focusing on repairing shelters and fishing boats. Agriculture (farming and fisheries) is one of the top priority clusters in 13 out of 19 assessed municipalities. The top 3 most affected commodities are rice (estimated damage amounts to PhP827 million; 23,422 ha and 4,255 rice farmers are affected; mostly in Camarines Sur and Albay), high value crops (about PhP697 million; 6,596 ha; 10,511 farmers; mostly in Sorsogon and Catanduanes) and abaca (PhP 127 million; 17,751 ha; mostly in Catanduanes and Albay).

Recommendations:

• Provide food packs, fresh produce, hot meals, drinking water and water kits.

• Appropriate and timely agricultural assistance, including certified rice, corn and vegetable seeds for immediate planting for the current planting season as well as fertilizers for rice and corn, vegetable seeds, hand tools and equipment for planting and harvesting, fingerlings and feeds. Fishing gear and equipment will be provided to resume income-generating activities and minimize prolonged dependence on food aid.

• Provision of multi-purpose cash transfers to cover immediate food needs and to allow affected farmers and fishers to restart agricultural activities (i.e., cash assistance using mobile wallet: cash for work for farm operations (land preparation, planting/transplanting, fertilizer and pest management); cash-for-training.

• Diversify farming systems through crop/livestock integration under coconut, including the provision of alternative livelihood options for coconut farmers.

• Provide planting materials and tools for next abaca cropping, support in the control of abaca diseases, including alternative livelihood options for abaca farmers and farm workers.
Basic essential health services were significantly disrupted in the majority of the assessed areas in Bicol Region. Rural Health Units continue to function despite partial damages and limited health staff.

Health care facilities continue to deliver health services, however, health authorities have expressed concerns over inadequate medicine and supplies for medical consultations. The influx of patients is expected to increase in the following days and weeks once more health facilities are re-opening. Patients are treated for basic illnesses (cough, colds, fever), open wounds, hypertension and diabetes and asthma.

Municipal health staff anticipate an increase in waterborne diseases due to the lack of access to safe water and contamination of existing water sources. Some areas (Pilar, Matnog in Sorsogon; Libon in Albay) have reported cases of diarrhea. The extent of the emergency causes mental health and psychosocial issues and reduced income due to loss of livelihood and shelter may increase the risk of the population experiencing early symptoms of psychological distress.

Pre-emptive steps were taken for pregnant and lactating women even before the typhoon to shelter them in Rural Health Units (Balatan, Camarines Sur; Prieto Diaz and Donsol, Sorsogon; San Miguel, Catanduanes) and/or Provincial Hospitals. However, the lack of water and electricity particularly in the Safe Birthing Facility in Matnog, Sorsogon, which has an average of 30 deliveries per month, needs to be addressed to ensure clean and safe deliveries.

Inadequate supplies of reproductive health commodities to health facilities especially to GIDA areas put women at high risk of unwanted pregnancy which is complicated with low modern contraceptive use. In addition, due to lack of access to life-saving contraceptives, teenage pregnancies may rise, as were reported in Libon, Albay and Catanduanes and is most likely unreported in other areas.

With established coordination mechanisms already put in place between the different levels, the identified needs at the municipal level can be addressed through adequate channels from municipal to provincial (PHO and PDOHO) as well as regional and national offices. Existing communication lines need to be strengthened to facilitate flow of data and information to immediately identify needs and appropriately address the gaps.

**Recommendations:**

**Health**

- Conduct water quality testing, in particular in areas with no access to safe drinking water, is required.
- Conduct health promotion activities to inform the affected population of the risks and dangers of wading in flooded water and promote of tetanus toxoid immunizations for wounds and injuries.
- Provide immediate psychosocial support services to the affected population, especially children and the most vulnerable.

**Sexual and Reproductive Health**

- Ensure sufficient supply of drugs, medicines and supplies to provide SRH services such as maternal care and family planning
- Immediately restore water supply to birthing facilities
- Define and inform on the referral pathways of the maternal care service delivery network (BeMONC and CEMONC) for affected communities
• Ensure a functional WCPU which is able to deliver clinical management of rape

• Ensure availability of sex and age disaggregated data especially for pregnant and lactating women, adolescents, and PWDs to ensure that the response will be tailored fit to the specific needs of the affected population

• Give special emphasis by delivering information and services to address SRH issues (adolescent pregnancy, HIV, STI) of adolescents.
The assessment found only minor issues regarding access as all the assessed areas could be reached either through the normal road network or through alternated routes. In the few reported insistences, where some areas were having difficulty with road access, sea access is available. It was reported that some roads were temporarily cut off due to downed power lines and trees, but these roads have been cleared and are now open for regular traffic. No gaps are expected and the Government, humanitarian partners, and the private sector will be able to deliver goods and services to all affected areas without problems.

The only potential issue is the backlog reported at Matnog Port where a queue of up to 600 trucks has formed up. Matnog is one of important ports and logistics hub in the Philippines acting as the jumping-off point to the Southern Islands. During the typhoon, the port was closed hence a long queue of trucks formed, creating a backlog.

Recommendations

- Close monitoring of the situation at Matnog Port will be required and delays can be expected.
- Approach the Government and requesting that relief items be given priority in use of ferry services.
NUTRITION

Around 60% of infants aged 6 months and below were reported to be exclusively breastfed, with some barangays reporting up to 90-100% rates. According to interviewed officials, good Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) and breastfeeding practices are heavily promoted by health and nutrition community workers resulting to relatively high awareness of mothers and caregivers on the importance and benefits of breastmilk and the risks of infant formula and breastmilk substitutes, especially during times of emergencies. Fortunately, there were no reports of infant formula donations in any of the surveyed areas. Widespread or uncontrolled donations of breastmilk substitutes especially during emergencies pose a great risk to the health of infants and young children.

According to key informants, nutrition services in general are expected to be provided by the Rural Health Units and Health Centers and that these have not been disrupted by the typhoon. Health and nutrition staff and volunteers can be approached should there be a need for further services. Although there is a general perception that supplies for nutrition are adequate, it was reported that there were limited multiple micronutrient powders to improve the quality of complementary food and no supplies of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) and Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food (RUSF) and Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) tapes on hand.

Although nutrition was not identified as a priority sector requiring assistance in any of the four provinces, food insecurity, livelihood, and WASH were consistently identified as priority clusters requiring immediate and sustainable interventions and these are important determinants of malnutrition. The impact of the typhoon on the nutritional status of the affected population, particularly the most vulnerable, will be further felt in the succeeding weeks or months as food supplies decline, market prices increase and disrupted livelihoods deplete household savings and limit income. Compounded with the pre-crisis levels of malnutrition, childhood wasting and stunting may increase if immediate measures to ensure adequate supply of safe drinking water, adequate and appropriate healthy and nutritious food, especially for young children and pregnant and lactating women, are not addressed.

Recommendations

- Support regional and local nutrition clusters in effectively coordinating and monitoring nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions using the 6 standard Information management tools.
- Support the conduct of regular nutrition-specific assessments to monitor the nutritional status of vulnerable groups over the next 3-6 months.
- Support LGUs as they restart and strengthen implementation and improve coverage of both preventive and therapeutic nutrition interventions.
- Working with the key clusters, such as Food Security and Agriculture cluster, Early Recovery and Livelihoods Cluster, WASH and Health cluster, will help prevent the deterioration of nutritional status of affected population and vulnerable groups in the first month of response.
- Explore nutrition-sensitive Cash-for-work and Food-for-work interventions to support vulnerable families.
PROTECTION including CHILD PROTECTION and GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Protection priorities were considered in the local government’s emergency preparedness and response efforts. Pre-emptive evacuation has facilitated household unity and prevented family separation. For most municipalities, there were no reported missing individuals or any reported case of separated and/or unaccompanied children following the typhoon emergency. However, secondary separation risks remain as children are left with relatives while parents repair shelters.

Main concerns include food insecurity and lack of livelihood opportunities following the typhoon, which increases protection risks and vulnerability to negative coping strategies such as neglect, child marriage and child labour. Coastal barangays reported that their identification and civil documents have been damaged or destroyed by the typhoon. Anxiety was observed in some children. No coordinated efforts on MHPSS for affected communities, or for service providers who were also affected by this emergency. The additional stress brought about by this crisis could increase the risks for protection issues and abuse cases. Direct observation also indicated protection risks in overcrowded evacuation centers, with no electricity, limited water supply and very little privacy for evacuees. Emergencies increase the risk of gender-based violence (GBV) as protection mechanisms, such as law and order, community and family networks, are weakened.

While there is no documented child abuse or GBV case related to this emergency, some areas had abuse cases reported pre-emergency. The Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer of Sorsogon reported a total of 240 cases of various forms of violence against women and children from January 2018 to May 2019. During humanitarian emergencies, women and girls’ risk of exposure to multiple forms of GBV is heightened due to various factors such as separation from family and communities, displacement and the breakdown of societal infrastructures, and women's economic vulnerability and dependence on others for basic survival.

Recommendations

- To further address protection issues and guide emergency response efforts, it is necessary to facilitate collection and analysis of gender and age disaggregated data.
- Strengthen emergency cluster coordination and information management capacities of LGUs to show coverage of interventions and current gaps for decision making.
- Apply protection and safeguarding principles to all forms of assistance, including in-kind (relief), cash and vouchers.
- Consider reduced rates or even waiving of fees to print identification and civil documents, as this would facilitate access to services.
- Develop cash for work initiatives that are safe, inclusive, and consider opportunities for different genders and vulnerabilities.
- Consider organizing psychosocial support initiatives at community level as well as for frontline service providers, who have been likewise affected by the emergency.
- Humanitarian action should build upon and strengthen existing community-based protection mechanisms.
The fishing and farming communities living in coastal and seashore areas are among the most affected by Typhoon Tisoy. The location of their homes, combined with the use of lightweight construction materials, makes their houses particularly exposed to typhoons. Within 48 hours after the storm, people started leaving the evacuation centres and repairing their houses with salvaged materials. The local, sub-national and national capacities are not overwhelmed by the extent of damage, needs and gaps in the affected municipalities of Region 5. However, the urge to repair existing damage and the lack of financial resources and technical knowledge lead the affected families to build back to its previous state, rather than better and safer. Households are very concerned about fixing their houses first, to then be able to focus on recovering their agricultural and fishing activities as soon as possible.

Most vulnerable groups identified for immediate support:
1. Fishing communities who lost their boats and fishing businesses, living on seashores and lakeshores
2. Farming communities with heavy damage to crops and plantations;
3. Households reporting totally damaged house;
4. The low-income households living in houses made of light materials.

Recommendations
Short term
1. Implement Multi-purpose cash transfers for recovery of immediate needs. Cash can also be used to purchase essential household items and shelter materials for immediate needs and repairs.
2. Provide technical support and guidance to affected communities, appropriate to the type of support they receive
3. Distribute essential relief household items in addition to multipurpose cash grants (mosquito nets, blankets and sleeping mats, hygiene kits, solar lamps) is advised.
4. Distribute of repair tools and more durable materials (whether as a cash envelop or directly procured would be the correct approach to support the ongoing self-recovery process to people living in partially and totally demaged houses.
5. Implement Build Back Safer (BBS) messaging and awareness raising for households, barangay captains, municipalities, and community volunteers using the Philippine Shelter Cluster key messages.

Medium term
1. Implement shelter market assessment on local availability of high quality CGI, suitable for high wind and typhoon prone areas.
2. Carry out mixed modality assistance consisting of distribution of conditional cash and in kind distribution of CGI sheets with technical assistance component for those in need to rebuild their destroyed houses.
3. Support preventative reinforcement and retrofitting of shelters and houses.
4. Implement community-based and participatory methodologies for sensitisation on BBS techniques on construction elements, community action planning and implementation of community-led mitigation measures at shelter and settlement level; on the job trainings for local builders and carpenters on BBS techniques for safer construction and repair.
The impact of Typhoon Tisoy on WASH, at the moment is not far-reaching and critical. Affected population still have a number of options to cope with disruptions on availability of WASH supplies and services and assessments indicate that any gap can still be covered within the current capacity of local governments at the provincial and municipal levels. There are pockets of outstanding needs in a number of areas assessed, including in Sorsogon Province, that require immediate support from the national government and external humanitarian actors.

The disaster situation needs to be closely monitored as other sectors are presently impacting the conditions of WASH, such as the restoration of power and shelter. If these will not be urgently addressed, WASH situation could deteriorate leading to spread of diseases. WASH responses should also be carried out within the context of development as most issues are pre-existing, for example, high rate of open defecation in coastal communities in the region.

**Recommendations**

**Water**
- Distribute water kits (water containers + water disinfectants), considering that restoration of power reportedly could take weeks and months, especially in remote areas.
- Promote household water treatment and safe storage, while also considering households’ preference on disinfection products, e.g., refusal to use Aquatabs.
- Perform regular water quality testing and monitoring particularly of open sources, such as hand pumps and ‘free-flowing’ sources.
- Continue providing water tankering and storage (setting up of water bladders), in still existing evacuation centers, like in Sorsogon Province, and areas with high population density, such as in Albay Province.

**Sanitation**
- Advocate for the inclusion of toilet repair materials along with shelter repair and reconstruction initiatives of local governments and shelter organisations (as against outright distribution of toilet repair kits)
- Introduce and advocate for sanitation programming following the Philippines Approach to Total and Sustainable Sanitation (PhATSS)

**Hygiene**
- Distribute hygiene kits to households with totally damaged houses, also to support restoration of their houses and not having to prioritize between WASH and shelter.
- Carry out hygiene promotion campaigns on the key messages on handwashing with soap and water, drinking safe water and use of toilets.

**WASH in Schools**
- Advocate for the inclusion of WASH facilities as destroyed schools are repaired and reconstructed.

*Photo credit: World Vision*
Organizations:
A Single Drop for Safe Water (ASDSW)/Humanitarian Response Consortium (HRC); Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED); Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA); Catholic Relief Services (CRS); CARE; ChildFund Philippines; Educo; Face Inc; FAO; Family Planning Organization of the Philippines (FPOP); Habitat for Humanity Philippines; Humanity and Inclusion; Integrated Midwives Association of the Philippines (IMAP); International Medical Corps (IMC); IOM; Phil. Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF); Plan International; Relief International; Samaritan's Purse; Save the Children; Simon of Cyrene; UNDP; UNFPA; UNICEF; WFP; WHO; Women in Emergencies Network; World Vision; OCHA

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