

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 600,000 people expected to benefit from recovery programme in Cebu.
- Housing, Land and Property Working Group established to ensure housing and property rights of affected communities are respected.
- Humanitarian partners provide psychosocial support to Haiyan survivors.
- Foreign military partners continue to provide rehabilitation support in Leyte.

### FIGURES

People displaced	4.1 million
% of people displaced outside evacuation centres	98
% of displaced people inside evacuation centres	2
Damaged houses	1 million

Source: Department of Social Welfare and Development (Note: Number of people displaced within 50 km radius from the typhoon track); National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

### FUNDING

Typhoon Haiyan Strategic Response Plan

**788 million**  
requested (US\$)

**45%** funded

Source: Financial Tracking Service



OCHA / JS Cortes

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## Message from the Humanitarian Coordinator

It has been just over three months since Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) struck the Visayas causing immense damage, displacement of populations as well as casualties. The robust efforts of the humanitarian community, hand in hand with the Government have by and large succeeded in preventing a full blown humanitarian crisis. Nevertheless there remain challenges in ensuring that the typhoon-affected communities are given the appropriate support to rebuild their livelihoods and strengthen their resilience in the face of future shocks that will most certainly affect the region. Over the coming weeks, humanitarian partners are working to reprioritize the activities planned for shelter and early recovery and livelihoods, both to ensure that they are attainable given the funding levels, but also to fully complement Government plans under the Recovery Assistance for Yolanda (RAY) launched in mid-December.

Over the next few weeks, the Humanitarian Bulletin will broaden its focus to encompass the challenges faced in the Philippines beyond Haiyan, including the aftermath of Typhoon Bopha, the Zamboanga crisis, the earthquake in Bohol, and of course the ongoing programmes to provide assistance in central Mindanao. Let me take the opportunity to thank the humanitarian partners – colleagues in the Government, the armed forces, NGOs, UN Agencies and donors alike, for the sustained work and attention to the needs of the Filipino people in the challenges that were faced in 2013, with a hope to be able to continue to work in such close partnership in 2014.

## Cebu rehabilitation and reconstruction

### More than 600,000 people expected to benefit from recovery programme

Since early January, Cebu Province has been transitioning from emergency response to rehabilitation and reconstruction. In order to facilitate the transition, the provincial government established the Paglig-on Task Force in December. The Task Force is charged with preparing a programme for supporting the recovery of Haiyan-affected communities north of the province and overseeing its implementation. The programme is expected to cover the recovery needs of more than 600,000 people in 15 municipalities and Bogo City.

The Task Force, which includes five thematic working groups, on shelter and resettlement, livelihoods, infrastructure, utilities and social development, is expected to serve as the main coordination mechanism in the province after the cluster system is phased out in the coming months



Credit: OCHA / J. Tonglet

*HLP Working Group established to ensure housing and property rights of affected communities are respected.*

As some organizations have ended operations or relocated emergency programming to Tacloban or Ormoc, local authorities have been increasingly concerned about decreasing resources to support recovery efforts. Concerns are particularly high in Bogo City and the municipalities of Daanbantayan, Medellin and San Remigio which have been considerably affected by the typhoon and where few organizations remain.

Shelter and livelihood interventions are particularly affected by the shortage of resources. While immediate shelter needs have been addressed, shelter conditions remain precarious for thousands. Families urgently require building materials, tools and technical support to repair or rebuild their houses. Livelihood interventions remain limited in number and small-scale in size. Education is another sector that requires urgent attention with approximately 2,400 classrooms damaged by the typhoon across the province.

Reducing disaster risks for populations living in hazard-prone areas remains a major concern for the municipal administrations. Local authorities in the seven most affected municipalities estimate that no less than 17,000 families are living in areas prone to flooding and storm surge in the north of the province. Not only do they require land and funding to prepare relocation sites, they also require technical expertise and partnership with humanitarian organizations and the private sector to ensure populations have access to integrated social services and livelihood interventions upon relocation.

## Post-Haiyan housing, land and property

With more than 1 million houses severely damaged or destroyed by Haiyan, Housing Land and Property (HLP) issues are among the key concerns. It is imperative that appropriate solutions are identified for all affected people, including formal and informal property owners and occupiers.

The HLP Working Group, consisting of agencies in the Shelter, WASH, Protection, CCCM and Early Recovery clusters as well as the Philippines

Commission on Human Rights, has been providing practical support to the Humanitarian Country Team on how to adequately address the rights of the affected people in the context of housing, settlement and relocation.

Given the scale of the disaster, in some affected areas, nearly all housing documentation (e.g. lease agreements, land titles) has been lost or destroyed. To help people regain these documents, the HLP Working Group recommends that community-based approaches should be considered to prove identity and agree property boundaries.

While it is important to regain legal documents as quickly as possible, it is essential that humanitarian assistance, including shelter, is provided to all those affected, regardless of tenure status. Households that did not own a house and/or land prior to the typhoon, as well as those households who may need to relocate will need legal support to ensure that they can remain at their new location and to mitigate the risk of being further displaced.

Clarity on tenure status and future place of residence is particularly important for families who are currently living in proposed 'no build zones.' The selection of beneficiaries for relocation, permanent housing and other assistance on relocation sites, as well as any movement of people affected by this disaster, should be voluntary, safe, free, informed, and dignified. Community consultation and participation are essential during the whole process. This is especially important for the most vulnerable, including indigenous communities.

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Credit: OCHA / G. Cortes

*Humanitarian partners provide psychosocial support to Haiyan survivors.*

## Mental Health and Psychosocial Response

### Humanitarian partners provide MHPSS services to affected communities

In humanitarian emergencies such as natural disasters, the number of people with mental disorders is estimated to increase by six to 11 per cent. Beyond mental disorders, people in emergency situations also often experience psychosocial problems that cannot be quantified.

As part of the Haiyan humanitarian response, the Department of Health led interventions that provided psychological first aid and psychosocial processing in the affected areas. UN agencies, non-government organizations (NGOs), academic institutions, faith-based groups, and individual citizens stepped in to respond to additional needs and fill gaps.

The Health Cluster conducted a series of training of trainers on psychological first aid and disseminated printed guidelines among representatives of the Government, national professional associations and key NGO networks and conducted a comprehensive assessment and mapping of the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) interventions in the affected areas.

The Gender-based Violence (GBV) sub-cluster also provided psychosocial support to survivors through services in women friendly spaces (WFS) in partnership with the Department of Social Welfare and Development. The WFS serves as a venue for raising awareness on GBV and provides psychosocial counselling with referrals for further mental health support.

Recently, new services that are considered part of psychosocial therapy for Haiyan survivors were introduced in the WFS. These include salon services, which provided free haircuts to women, men, girls and boys attending information sessions in the WFS. By the end of January, at least 17 WFS had been established in areas covered by the Tacloban City, Borongan and Roxas City humanitarian hubs.

With a total of only 21 psychiatrists in Government practice in the four Haiyan-affected regions, Government and non-government groups partnered, with support from the private sector, to provide additional psychiatric services in selected communities and organize the provision of psychotropic drugs.

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Psychiatrists in Government practice in the four Haiyan-affected regions

## Emergency engineering support in Leyte

### Schools and public infrastructures rehabilitated by foreign military assets

Almost 100 days after the catastrophic landfall of Typhoon Haiyan, the largest and one of the hardest-hit elementary schools in Tanauan Municipality, Leyte Province re-opened on 12 February, ushering in a new chapter for the students and the community in Leyte. “We would like to thank our military friends from South Korea and the Philippines for their generous hard work to repair our school: a gift from the heart for a brighter future for our children” said the mayor speaking at the re-opening ceremony of Tanauan Central Elementary School.



Credit: OCHA

Following the re-opening of Opong Elementary School in Tolosa Municipality in the end of January, this was the second school to be supported by ‘emergency engineering’ rehabilitation carried out through a combined operation between the military civil engineers of the Joint Support Task Force (JSTF) of the Republic of Korea (RoK) and the

*Foreign military assets continue to provide rehabilitation support in Leyte.*

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). The re-opening of Leyte Provincial Hospital on 5 February was also possible with the support from the RoK JSTF and AFP.

At the height of the disaster response in November 2013, nearly 25 countries provided military support to deliver relief goods and services to the affected communities. The RoK forces have subsequently deployed 540 personnel mostly military engineers to continue to assist with assets to match the different phase of the response going beyond the disaster relief and focusing on recovery. The Rok forces are expected to remain for one year. JSTF teams continue to provide mobile medical and dental health services, fumigation to mitigate the risk of dengue and waste and debris clearance.

## In Brief

### **Over 100 families remain displaced by Estancia oil spill in Iloilo Province**

The effects of an oil spill in Estancia (Iloilo Province, Region VI) caused by Typhoon Haiyan more than three months ago are still being felt by local communities, with 110 families (about 550 people) still living in an evacuation centre. However, progress is being made and a large number of families returned to their areas of origin after a clean-up operation got under way. Many were assisted with shelter kits and tents. At the height of the crisis the evacuation centre was home to over 400 families (2,000 people).

On 8 February, 19 families moved to newly constructed bunkhouses in Conception Municipality. To date, 84 bunkhouses have been completed in the municipality and another 36 are planned. For background information on the oil spill, please visit: <http://bit.ly/1diVRPB>

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