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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Philippines: Typhoon Sarika

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation: MDRPH021	Glide n° TC-2016-000108-PHL
Date of issue: 19 October 2016	Date of disaster: 16 October 2016
Operation manager: Patrick Elliott, operations manager IFRC Philippines country office	Point of contact: Atty. Oscar Palabyab, secretary general Philippine Red Cross
Operation start date: 16 October 2016	Expected timeframe: 3 months (to 31 January 2017)
Overall operation budget: CHF 169,011	
Number of people affected: 52,270 people (11,926 families)	Number of people to be assisted: 8,000 people (1,600 families)
Host National Society: Philippine Red Cross (PRC) is the nation's largest humanitarian organization and works through 100 chapters covering all administrative districts and major cities in the country. It has at least 1,000 staff at national headquarters and chapter levels, and approximately one million volunteers and supporters, of whom some 500,000 are active volunteers. At chapter level, a programme called Red Cross 143, has volunteers in place to enhance the overall capacity of the National Society to prepare for and respond in disaster situations.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: PRC is working with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in this operation. The National Society also works with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as well as American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross Society, The Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent Society, Spanish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross in-country. A majority of these partners are supporting other PRC responses, including to Typhoon Haiyan, Typhoon Melor and Typhoon Meranti.	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: The Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) have been monitoring the Typhoon as soon as it developed as a low pressure area within the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR). The NDRRMC began issuing storm advisories since 13 October 2016, and directed Regional counterparts through the Office of Civil Defense Regional Offices to undertake precautionary measures in their areas of responsibility and subsequently advised local counterparts to initiate pre-emptive evacuation of families in low-lying and mountainous areas if the situation warrants. NDRRMC have also conducted pre-disaster risk assessment meetings on 12 and 13 October. Results of the meetings were disseminated to Regions I, II, III V and the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR). Continuous monitoring of the typhoon was also carried out by various government and non-government agencies, including members of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

On 16 October 2016, Typhoon Sarika (locally known as Karen) made landfall over Baler, Aurora with maximum sustained winds of 150 km per hour and gustiness of up to 210 km per hour, and moved west across the Luzon mainland before heading out to the sea west of the Philippines. By morning of 17 October, Typhoon Sarika had exited the PAR, according to PAGASA. At Sarika's peak, Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal (TCWS) number 3 was raised in 11 provinces, TCWS number 2 in 10 provinces and Metro Manila, and TCWS number 1 in 12 provinces.

According to the NDRRMC, a total of 11,926 families (52,270 people) from six regions have been affected by Sarika, of whom some 5,444 families (24,693 people) are still inside 316 evacuation centres. A total of 8,123 families (39,934 people) were pre-emptively evacuated, with most already returning to their homes. Some 572.8 million Philippine pesos (11.7 million Swiss francs) worth of damage to agriculture in Regions V and Cordillera have been initially reported. The real extent of the damage will be known in the following days after assessment teams from the government and the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) have reported their findings.

Meantime, another weather disturbance – Typhoon Haima – is heading towards the Island of Luzon. According to PAGASA, Typhoon Haima (local name Lawin) is expected to intensify further before making landfall over the Cagayan area by Thursday 20 October morning – potentially as a super typhoon of equivalent to Category 5 cyclone. Haima may affect some of the areas that were battered by Typhoon Sarika as well as Batanes which was recently struck by, and still recovering from, Typhoon Meranti (Ferdie).

Summary of the current response

Since 12 October 2016, PRC had taken action to prepare and anticipate possible scenarios of Typhoon Sarika before it made landfall. The National Society's operation centre at the national headquarters was on alert 24/7 since the typhoon was sighted approaching the Philippines, and disseminated information to partners, and PRC chapters that were likely to be affected.



Monitoring of the typhoon and response preparations in the chapters: Left: Camarines Norte Chapter. Right: Nueva Vizcaya Chapter. **Photo: PRC**

As part of their response, PRC chapters supported evacuations, search and rescue, first aid, and transport services. PRC also provided psychosocial support, and distributed hot meals, food packs, and tarpaulins to affected families in Catanduanes, Camarines Norte, Nueva Ecija, Batangas and Masbate utilizing staff and volunteers who are mainly part of Red Cross Action Teams (RCAT). Rapid needs assessments are currently being carried out.

Outside this DREF-supported operation, as Typhoon Sarika approached, PRC was initiating another typhoon operation in Batanes, following the effects of Typhoon Meranti (local name Ferdie) in September. The operation targets to deliver relief and early recovery assistance to families affected by Typhoon Meranti in Basco Municipality and Itbayat island. The vessel ferrying non-food relief and shelter items to Batanes could not sail on schedule due to Typhoon Sarika, meaning that target families will have to wait longer for the crucial assistance to reach them.

In addition to the ongoing Typhoon Meranti operation, PRC has put in place preparedness measures for a new approaching weather disturbance, Typhoon Haima (local name Lawin) which is projected to affect North Luzon, including some of the areas affected by Typhoon Sarika – such as Batanes archipelago.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent actors in-country

The PRC works with the IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), as well as American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross Society, The Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, Taiwan Red Cross Organization and Qatar Red Crescent Society in-country.

Movement Coordination

The IFRC is supporting PRC in coordinating with Red Cross Red Crescent Movement via a Programme Coordinator. The coordinator liaises frequently and supports coordination with the PRC, ICRC and partner national societies in-country as well as with external organizations as needed.

Overview of non-Red Cross Red Crescent actors in-country

Coordinating with the authorities

As auxiliary to the public authorities, PRC maintains a strong relationship or collaboration with (i) NDRRMC; (ii) provincial, municipal and barangay (village) disaster risk reduction and management councils; and (iii) local government units defined in the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010.

PRC participates in NDRRMC meetings and coordinates with the Department of Social Welfare and Development, and Department of Health, and the NDRRMC at provincial, municipal and barangay levels. With regards to Typhoon Sarika, PRC continues to participate in meetings with the NDRRMC.

Inter-agency coordination

At country level, PRC and IFRC participate in Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) forums held both during disasters and non-emergency times. PRC and IFRC are involved in relevant cluster or working group information sharing, planning, and analysis at all levels while IFRC supports PRC coordination efforts through representation in other relevant clusters as required. Regionally, the IFRC Asia Pacific regional office and Bangkok Country Cluster team participate in regional Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) meetings.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

Needs assessments

While overall impact of Typhoon Sarika will only be determined upon completion of assessments, early reports from PRC chapters show that it has left some substantial humanitarian needs. Three chapters in areas that were hardest hit have indicated that immediate needs are related to food, non-food and hygiene items.

This DREF allocation will enable PRC to replenish relief supplies – for 1,600 households – which it is releasing from its warehouse for distributions to affected households so as to meet immediate needs. The items include mosquito nets, sleeping mats, blankets, hygiene kits, jerry cans and tarpaulins. In addition to the non-food relief, PRC is also providing food packs to families that stay in evacuation centres for more than 72 hours.

Beneficiary selection

The vulnerabilities of the affected population are usually layered and multi-faceted. In its response, PRC will ensure that programmes are aligned with its own as well as IFRC's commitment to take into account gender and diversity, for example by targeting women-headed households, pregnant or lactating women, and men and boys made vulnerable by the disaster, families that have not received any or sufficient assistance from the government or other organizations, those belonging to the socially vulnerable households, and those who lack relevant resources to cope with basic humanitarian needs on their own. These groups will be considered according to level of impact and more priority will be given to those who stay in evacuation centres for more than 72 hours.

Once beneficiaries are identified, each will be given a PRC beneficiary card with their and household members' names. The card will form the basis for the recognition of bearers as beneficiaries of the PRC and during implementation PRC volunteers will countercheck if the names on the card are listed in distribution sheets. Upon receipt of any items or assistance, beneficiaries will sign award sheets or participating lists. With these records, cases of double-counting will be eliminated.

Feasibility and delivery capacity

The PRC chapters in Aurora, Catanduanes and Nueva Vizcaya have technical capacity and experience to deliver the interventions planned in this DREF-supported response with minimal – if any – technical assistance from the PRC headquarters, IFRC and other Movement partners. All distributions of relief items and needs assessments will be led and carried out by PRC staff and volunteers at the chapter level.

B. Operational strategy and plan

This DREF allocation aims to support PRC by replenishing preparedness stocks that were released and prepositioned for distribution to affected communities in the provinces of **Aurora, Catanduanes** and **Nueva Vizcaya**. The allocation will also cover mobilization costs incurred by the chapters in ensuring that the items reached or reach affected people.

The operation will be implemented over **three months and will be completed by 31 January 2017**. A final report will be made available three months after the end of the operation.

Overall objective

This operation will enable PRC to meet the immediate food and non-food needs of 1,600 households in the provinces of Aurora, Catanduanes and Nueva Vizcaya.

Proposed strategy

All distributions of relief items and needs assessments will be led and carried out by PRC staff and volunteers at the chapter level. PRC national headquarters and IFRC will only support the chapters in monitoring to ensure that the operation is in line with procedures, quality and standards.

Operational support services

Human resources

No new staff will be recruited for this operation. All activities will be implemented by the three PRC chapters utilizing their existing staff but with mobilization of additional volunteers. PRC will welcome one member of the Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) as an additional technical support to work alongside PRC chapters.

Logistics and supply chain

PRC has been distributing relief items from existing in-country prepositioned stocks to meet the immediate needs in the affected areas. All in-country transportation of relief items are being carried out utilizing PRC existing fleet although in some cases additional trucks have been hired.

Procurement to replenish all standard non-food items (jerry cans, hygiene kits, mosquito nets and tarpaulins) will be done via the IFRC Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Kuala Lumpur while blankets and sleeping mats will be procured at national level in the Philippines, with support of the IFRC in-country logistics team based in Manila. Food packs will be procured at the chapter level with support of PRC national headquarters logistics team. The RLU in Kuala Lumpur will extend technical support to PRC and IFRC country office as needed.

Information technology and telecommunications

The DREF allocation will cover costs of mobile phone credit and Internet cards for the three chapters involved. PRC will ensure that staff and volunteers involved in the operation can be reachable via mobile phones. The chapters have computers for keying in data, for preparing reports and sending official communication, among others. Costs relating to servicing the chapter computers and other IT telecommunications items being utilized for the operation will be charged to the DREF allocation.

Communications

The PRC communications team is ensuring that Red Cross preparedness and response efforts for Typhoon Sarika are effectively communicated amongst its key public audiences. In addition to issuing a [press release](#), the communications team is utilizing social media platforms to disseminate key messages. PRC staff and volunteers across the country are actively contributing to institutional communications through their own social media networks.

PRC and IFRC communications teams will work together to generate news stories for use across IFRC and PRC multimedia platforms. A range of communication materials including key messages and talking points will be produced to support and guide the communications activities of Partner National Societies.

Beneficiary communications and accountability

The provision of information and two-way engagement with the affected population is a key point that PRC considers in its response operations. Chapters have in place measures that ensure activities are managed and adjusted according to the expectations, needs and concerns of affected communities. Beneficiary communication components and mechanisms are incorporated across the various programme sectors.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER)

Reporting on the operation will be made in accordance with the IFRC minimum reporting standards. One update will be issued during the operation's timeframe and a final report within three months of the end of the operation.

Monitoring of distributions is carried out through the use of beneficiary distribution lists, and feedback from beneficiary households themselves. Post distribution surveys will be undertaken to determine the level of satisfaction among the people who will be reached with assistance, particularly relief distributions.

Administration and Finance

The IFRC provides the necessary operational support for review, validation of budgets, bank transfers, and technical assistance to National Societies on procedures for justification of expenditures, including the review and validation of invoices. PRC has been supported for many years by the IFRC and is accustomed to these financial procedures.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Shelter and settlements (and household items)

Needs analysis: Initial assessments indicate needs in the sectors of immediate relief and emergency shelter. There are households still seeking temporary shelter in evacuation centres and will require essential items to meet immediate needs in a dignified manner. This operation will therefore support provision of non-food items, including mosquito nets (2 per family), sleeping mats (2 per family), blankets (2 per family), hygiene kits, and jerry cans (2 per family) as well as emergency shelter items (tarpaulins – 2 per family) to affected families in the provinces of Aurora, Catanduanes and Nueva Vizcaya. PRC has already initiated distributions utilizing items from in-country prepositioned stocks to meet the immediate needs in the affected areas. New procurements will be for replenishing.

Population to be assisted: 1,600 households will be assisted with emergency shelter (tarpaulins) and non-food relief items.

Outcome 1: The immediate shelter and settlement needs of the population affected by Typhoon Sarika are met.				
Output 1.1: Essential household items are provided to the target population.				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
1.1.1 Identify, register, verify and mobilize beneficiaries for distributions.				
1.1.2 Mobilize and transport non-food items to affected areas.				
1.1.3 Distribute non-food items to 1,600 affected households.				
1.1.4 Replenish items distributed to 1,600 affected households.				
Output 1.2: Emergency shelter assistance is provided to the target population.				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
1.2.1 Identify, register, verify and mobilize beneficiaries for distributions.				
1.2.2 Mobilize and transport emergency shelter items (tarpaulins) to the affected area.				
1.2.3 Distribute emergency shelter items to 1,600 affected households with appropriate software support (including information, education and communication materials on the best use of tarpaulins).				

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Needs analysis: There is a need to provide hygiene kits and jerry cans alongside other non-food relief items. Households provided with hygiene kits will also be reached by hygiene promotion activities to improve hygiene behaviour and bridge knowledge and practice of safe water and food handling as well as hygiene practices such as hand-washing to mitigate the risk of preventable diseases.

Population to be assisted: The 1,600 households targeted with jerry cans, mosquito nets and hygiene kits in the provinces of Aurora, Catanduanes and Nueva Vizcaya will also be reached with hygiene promotion.

Outcome 2: Risk of waterborne, water-related and vector-borne diseases in communities affected by Typhoon Sarika reduced.				
Output 2.1: Knowledge, attitude and practice on safe water, sanitation and hygiene by target population increased.				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
2.1.1. Collaborate with the relief sector in providing hygiene kits and hygiene promotion for the usage of safe water storage containers.				
2.1.2. Recruit and train new or mobilize existing community health volunteers to participate in hygiene promotion activities, in coordination with the health team.				
2.1.3. Conduct hygiene promotion activities in target communities, in collaboration with the health team and other sectors.				

Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

Needs analysis: There is a need to ensure sufficient supplies of emergency food rations to meet immediate food and nutrition requirements of affected people, especially those displaced for days but with access to cooking utensils.

Population to be assisted: 1,000 households in the provinces of Aurora and Catanduanes will be provided with a 2-3 day PRC food pack which contains five kilos of rice, four cans of sardine and four packets of noodles. The packs will complement food items provided by the authorities and other actors.

Outcome 3: The immediate food needs of households affected by Typhoon Sarika are met.				
Output 3.1: Appropriate food packs are distributed to 1,000 households				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
3.1.1 Identify, register, verify and mobilize beneficiaries for distributions.				
3.1.2 Mobilize and transport food items to affected areas.				
3.1.3 Distribute food packs to 1,000 affected households.				

Quality programming

Outcome 4: Continuous and detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation.				
Output 4.1: Needs assessments are conducted and response plans updated according to findings.				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
4.1.1 Undertake assessments to determine specific needs of beneficiaries.				
4.1.2 Develop a response plan with activities that will meet identified beneficiary needs.				
Output 4.2: Additional assistance is considered where appropriate and incorporated into the plan				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
4.2.1 Ensure that any adjustments to initial plans are informed by continuous assessment of needs and through established feedback mechanisms.				
4.2.2 Conduct post-action surveys to determine the level of satisfaction among beneficiaries.				

ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS TABLE TEMPLATE

ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS	LIST IF SPECIFIC AFFECTED SECTORS OR STATE 'ALL'	Likelihood	Impact	CAN CONTROL; MITIGATE / INFLUENCE; OR ONLY FACTOR-IN
Typhoon Haima and other immediate future disaster do not impact upon the same areas, distracting resources and implementation schedules	All	H	H	Factor into disaster preparedness
Access and logistics for delivery of materials, including to remote locations, is not hampered by bad weather conditions and blocked roads	All	H	H	Factor into logistics planning

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation, please contact:

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[Click here](#)

1. DREF budget [below](#)
 2. Click [here](#) to return to the title page
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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to **inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the **maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world**.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.

Budget

DREF OPERATION

19/10/2016

MDRPH021 : Typhoon Sarika (Karen)

Budget Group	Appeal Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	41,600
Clothing & Textiles	32,987
Food	6,483
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	6,200
Utensils & Tools	8,000
Other Supplies & Services	30,042
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	125,312
Storage, Warehousing	125
Distribution & Monitoring	2,600
Transport & Vehicle Costs	8,333
Logistics Services	6,500
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	17,558
Volunteers	6,188
Total PERSONNEL	6,188
Travel	7,838
Information & Public Relations	1,081
Office Costs	625
Communications	94
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	9,637
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	10,315
Total INDIRECT COSTS	10,315
TOTAL BUDGET	169,011