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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

Philippines: Typhoon Maysak



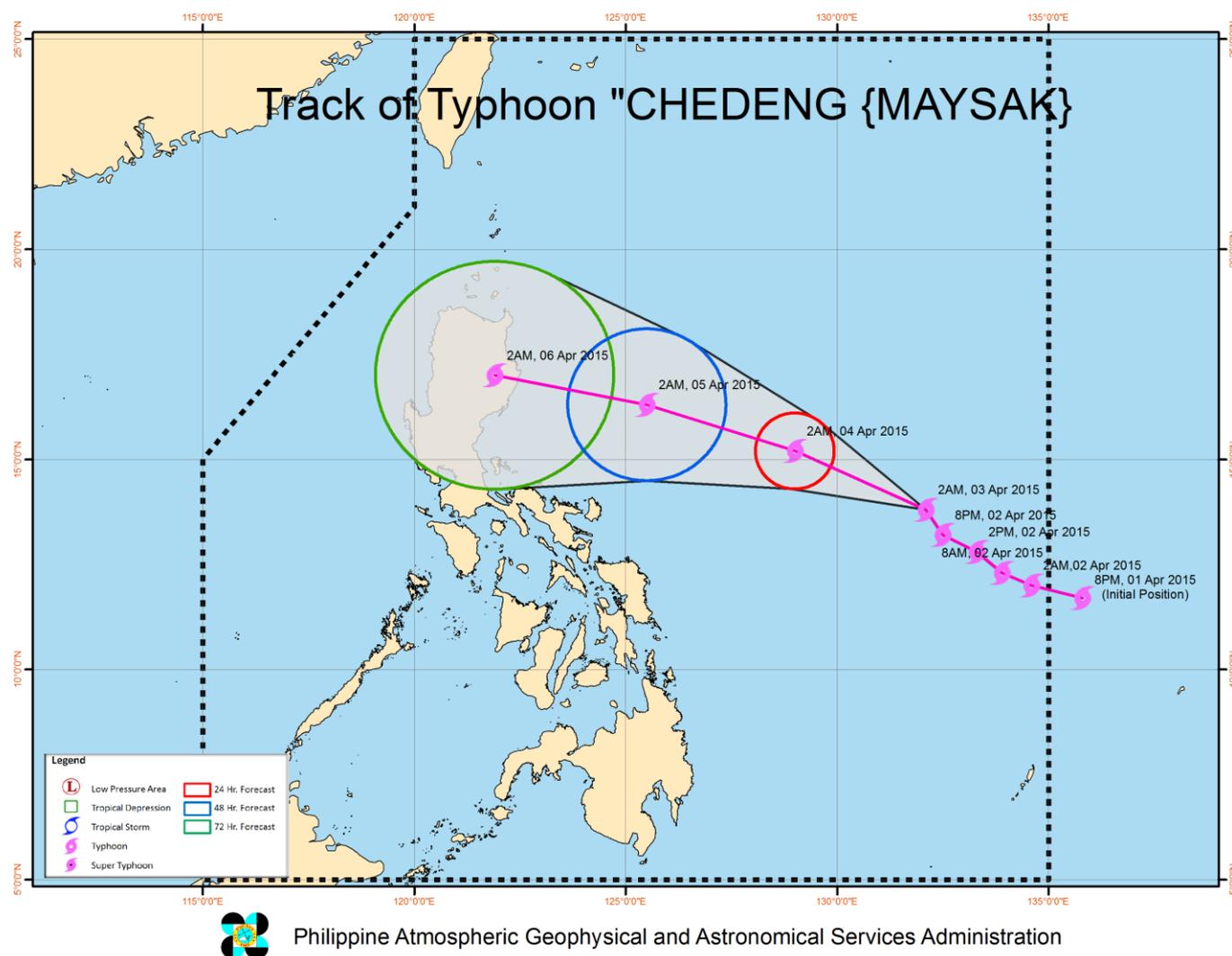
DREF operation: MDRPH018	
Date of issue: 3 April 2015	Date of disaster: Imminent
Manager responsible for this DREF operation: Patrick Elliott, operations manager IFRC Philippines country delegation	Point of contact: Gwendolyn Pang, secretary-general Philippine Red Cross
Operation start date: 2 April 2015	Operation end date: 30 June 2015
Operation budget: CHF 119,180	DREF allocated: CHF 119,180
Number of people to be assisted: 5,000 people (1,000 households)	
<p>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 also, a programme called Red Cross 143, where volunteers is in place to enhance the overall capacity of the National Society to prepare for and respond in disaster situations.</p>	
<p>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 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, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross Society, The Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent Society, The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Taiwan Red Cross Organization, in-country. A majority of these partners are supporting PRC's response to Typhoon Haiyan but some may potentially support PRC's response to Typhoon Maysak should the situation in that aftermath indicate the need for a scaled up International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement response.</p>	
<p>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 Typhoon Maysak even before it entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR). The NDRRMC begun issuing storm advisories on 30 March 2015, directing disaster risk reduction and management councils at the local level to initiate pre-emptive evacuations if the situation warrants. Continuous monitoring of the typhoon is also being carried out by various government and non-government agencies, including members of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).</p>	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Moving west-northwest from the Pacific, Typhoon Maysak (locally known as Chedeng) entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) on 1 April 2015 as a Category 5 typhoon. However, it has since weakened slightly and is currently packing maximum sustained winds of 165 kph near its centre and gusts of up to 200 kph, moving at a slow pace of 15 kph. According to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), as of 7:00 am (Philippine time), 3 April 2015, the typhoon was located 765 km East of Virac, Catanduanes at coordinates 14.0°N, 131.3°E.

Based on current reported models of the storm's track, it is projected that Maysak will make landfall over the eastern coast of Aurora-Isabela area in central Luzon as a Category 1 or 2 typhoon on Sunday 5 April 2015. The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) is reporting the possibility of flashfloods over low-lying areas and landslides along mountain slopes. While good weather is expected to hold through Friday, 3 April 2015, with some isolated rain showers or thunderstorms across Luzon, rain, gusty winds and stormy weather are expected over the Bicol region, Central and Northern Luzon (including Metro Manila).



The anticipated path of Typhoon Maysak crosses over the heavily populated Luzon island, and its diameter could affect both coastal and inland communities through torrential rain, damaging winds, rough seas, heavy swells, coastal flooding, flash flooding and landslides on higher terrain. The NDRRMC issued a Red Alert at noon on 1 April 2015 while PAGASA is expected to raise public storm warning signals as the typhoon nears land mass. PAGASA has issued a gale warning, with strong to gale-force winds expected to affect the eastern seaboard of Central and Southern Luzon and the eastern seaboard of Visayas. Fishing populations, ferry commuters and holiday makers – especially during this holiday period for the largely Catholic nation in observance of the Holy Week/Easter season – in areas covered by the gale warning have been advised to be alert for possible evacuation.

Considering the potential impact that Typhoon Maysak could have on the Philippines, the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) has requested support from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in its potential emergency response. Based on an analysis of the situation and information available from relevant sources at this time, the IFRC is making an allocation from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to enable the PRC to conduct an immediate response when safety conditions allow. The funds will enable the National Society to mobilize pre-positioned relief supplies to areas under threat for immediate distribution to affected people and also to facilitate the deployment of rapid assessment teams to quickly determine needs of the affected population - which is crucial in informing the development of a detailed action plan.

Based on further information and rapid assessments to be carried out after Maysak strikes, and when safety conditions allow, additional assistance may be requested through the IFRC international disaster response mechanisms.

Summary of the current response

Since 31 March 2015, PRC has taken action to prepare and anticipate possible scenarios of Typhoon Maysak's path and where it will make landfall. The National Society's operation centre at the national headquarters has been on alert 24/7 since the typhoon was sighted approaching the Philippines, while at chapter-level, all Red Cross Action Teams (RCATs) are ready to be deployed. Volunteers on the ground are also providing their chapters and the national headquarters with current information on the situation in their respective areas.

Two assessment teams comprising technical personnel from the PRC disaster management, health and social services are also ready for deployment, together with all emergency response units, with search-and-rescue facilities and equipment. PRC is also deploying an amphibian unit, a payload and two 10-wheeler trucks to transport supplies from the National Society's regional warehouse in Subic Bay to areas which are expected to suffer the effect of Typhoon Maysak. Initial deployment of relief supplies for 200 households to a safe position closer to the projected area of impact is being carried out in parallel. Trucks carrying supplies for 200 households left Subic Bay on Thursday, 2 April 2015, evening and to arrive in Nueva Viscaya later today, Friday 3 April 2015. Additional emergency shelter and non-food items, for at least 800 families, are being readied for immediate mobilization to affected areas – if required – in the aftermath of the typhoon.

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, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross Society, The Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, Taiwan Red Cross Organization and Qatar Red Crescent Society in-country.

Movement Coordination

The IFRC currently has an acting Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordinator in place who liaises frequently and supports coordination with the PRC, ICRC, Partner National Societies in-country, and 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 with government bodies through participation or collaboration with (i) the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC); (ii) the provincial, municipal and barangay (village) disaster risk reduction and management councils; and (iii) the local government units defined in the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act from 2010.

PRC participates in NDRRMC meetings and coordinates with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and Department of Health, and the NDRRMC at provincial, municipal and barangay levels. With regards to Typhoon Maysak, 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 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 zone office and South-East Asia regional delegation participate in regional Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) meetings.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

Needs assessments

Typhoon Maysak continues to approach the Philippine island of Luzon at a slow pace. While its overall impact will only be known once it makes landfall and the needs it creates determined upon completion of rapid needs assessments, forecasts show that it is likely to leave significant damage and corresponding needs in its wake. The Philippine authorities, the Red Cross Red Crescent and humanitarian actors will certainly mount immediate interventions to meet such humanitarian needs that may be wrought by Maysak.

This DREF allocation will support deployment of operational support and rapid assessment teams as well as the mobilization of pre-positioned relief supplies to areas under threat, for immediate distribution to affected people. This is in line with PRC's request for immediate surge capacity as logistics/travel may be difficult in the wake of Maysak. Pre-positioning of key staff and shelter relief items will not only enable rapid response if required, but also position PRC to quickly determine needs of the affected people, which is crucial in informing the development of a detailed action plan.

IFRC support will initially enable PRC to mobilize equipment and supplies sufficient for 200 households from warehouses, to strategic and secure locations with greater access to areas where the typhoon is expected to hit. These include trucks and a payloader for debris removal, and relief non-food items such as mosquito nets, sleeping mats, blankets, hygiene kits (including hygiene promotion), and jerry cans for water distribution as well as emergency shelter items (tarpaulins), to provide for the immediate needs of affected people. Relief supplies for a further 800 households will then be transported in the aftermath of the storm, informed by rapid assessment of needs and are budgeted in this request. If rapid assessments (to be carried out when safety conditions permit) indicate that the needs are higher than projected, a revised DREF request – with a revised budget – may be issued and if needed, an emergency appeal.

Beneficiary selection

The vulnerabilities of the affected population are usually layered and multi-faceted. In its responses, 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, who have been forced to migrate. These groups will be considered according to the level of impact and more priority will be given to those who have lost their houses.

The main criteria for validation will prioritize most vulnerable households among the populations directly affected by the disaster and who have not received any or sufficient assistance from the government or other organizations. Other considerations will be people staying in evacuation centres; those who lack relevant resources to cope with basic humanitarian needs on their own; those belonging to the socially vulnerable households, including women-headed households and those with many dependent children; persons with disabilities and of low economic resources, and; the sick and elderly with low economic base.

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 official 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 Luzon have technical capacity and experience to deliver in this potential response with support from the PRC headquarters, the 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 position the PRC and the IFRC system to respond to immediate needs that may be caused by Typhoon Maysak through the deployment and standby of IFRC and National Society surge capacity as well as covering costs of mobilizing preparedness stocks to affected areas. A revision of the plan of action will be made to cover the full response operation as necessary. A final report will be made available three months after the end of the operation.

Overall objective

This DREF operation aims to support the PRC in responding to immediate needs of communities that may be affected by Typhoon Maysak and undertaking rapid assessments to inform the development of a detailed action plan. Furthermore the operation will initially support immediate needs of up to 1,000 households through the provision of essential household non-food items and emergency shelter materials – which will be mobilized from pre-positioned stocks– as well as distribution of safe water and mobilization of communities to undertake environmental sanitation activities. More supplies will be delivered based on needs that will be informed by post-disaster assessments.

Proposed strategy

The initial strategy is to provide surge capacity to PRC from the IFRC country delegation to facilitate pre-positioning of humanitarian assistance and supplies. Once this surge support in place, rapid assessments will be undertaken to obtain a clearer picture of the situation. This support will enable better response preparedness.

Parallel to this surge support, it can already be projected - based on previous experience of PRC working in tandem with other government and humanitarian organizations - that the support provided by the Red Cross Red Crescent will cover essential household items, and emergency shelter assistance. Distribution of safe water will also be undertaken pending repair of damaged systems and community members will be mobilized to undertake environmental sanitation activities such as debris clearing. In line with this, the PRC has requested support from IFRC in order to ensure a smooth and rapid response to affected people, and preparations have advanced to carry this out.

The DREF allocation will also cover distribution and logistics costs, including support for PRC volunteers who are at the frontline of disaster response. The initial response will be carried out for at least 15 days during which assessments will be completed to further inform subsequent action.

Operational support services

Human resources

As they will be the first responders, volunteers from PRC will be required to respond to this imminent disaster. Teams of volunteers have already been put on stand-by in several locations and more will be needed. In terms of staff, it is planned to provide additional surge capacity to some key locations. IFRC field and communications delegates are ready for deployment to possible affected areas, together with financial and fleet staff. PRC chapter staff in provinces where the typhoon is anticipated, are on high alert.

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 also, volunteers in a programme called Red Cross 143 – one team leader and 43 team members in each barangay – is in place to enhance the overall capacity of the National Society to prepare for and respond in disaster situations.

The IFRC country delegation in the Philippines is led by a head of delegation and consists of some 50 national and 28 international staff in Manila and in various parts of the country where the IFRC supports PRC in ongoing operations and longer-term development programming.

Logistics and supply chain

Logistics support is provided by an in-country IFRC team led by one logistics coordinator together with field hub coordinators and delegates specialized in warehousing, procurement and fleet management as well as national staff based in Manila and the chapters covered by operations.

Logistics activities will aim to effectively manage the supply chain, including procurement, clearance, storage and forwarding to distribution sites following PRC and IFRC logistics procedures, with full audit trail.

Information technology and telecommunications

With the existing digital divide between the current state of information and communication technology (ICT) skills and future operational needs in the field and among offices, IFRC supports sustainable skills training and equipment maintenance knowledge of PRC staff and volunteers.

Support in elevating staff/volunteer skills in new technologies, including efficient electronic data collection tools such as the Open Data Kit (ODK) and electronic reporting is also being implemented, and is aligned with PRC's strategic objectives.

Communications

PRC and IFRC communications teams are taking measures to ensure that Red Cross preparedness and response efforts around Typhoon Chedeng are effectively communicated amongst key public audiences. The IFRC's communications delegate is on standby to deploy to the field as required and a photographer/videographer will be contracted and pre-positioned in a suitable location where the typhoon is expected to make landfall. This will ensure that the wider Red Cross membership has immediate access to high quality audio-visual materials for use in their publicity efforts. Steps are also being taken to highlight PRC's preparedness measures via social media platforms and through direct engagement with local and international media.

PRC and IFRC communications teams work together to generate news stories for use across IFRC and PRC multimedia platforms. A range of communication materials including key messages, fact sheets and case studies are produced to support and guide the communications activities of National Societies. Media releases and press conferences may be organised as required and staff and volunteers across the country are actively contributing to institutional communications through their own social media channels.

Beneficiary communications and accountability

The provision of information and two-way engagement with the affected population is a key point to consider during the response operation, so that PRC activities can be adjusted according to the expectations, needs and concerns of affected communities. Beneficiary communication components and mechanisms will be incorporated across the various programme sectors and will be closely linked with planning, monitoring and evaluation processes in order to build an environment of transparency and accountability.

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. However, if this operation evolves into an Emergency Appeal response, subsequent reporting will be done within the context of that Emergency Appeal.

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, through the department of finance, provides the necessary operational support for review, validation of budgets, bank transfers, and technical assistance to the National Societies on procedures for justification of expenditures, including the review and validation of invoices. Most National Societies have been supported for many years by the IFRC and are accustomed to these financial procedures.

The IFRC finance and administration team in Manila comprises one finance coordinator, one finance manager, and three finance officers as well as two administration officers and five drivers who also provide transport support in the field when required.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Early warning & emergency response preparedness

Needs analysis: While the overall impact of the typhoon will be known in its aftermath, PRC and IFRC need to be prepared for immediate interventions and assessments. Allocation from DREF will support deployment of operational support and rapid assessment teams.

Outcome 1: The Philippine Red Cross is better prepared to respond to Typhoon Maysak.				
Output 1.1: Surge capacity from Manila provided and supports the PRC in its immediate responses.				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
1.1.1 Place National Society staff and volunteers on stand-by in various locations for immediate response.				
1.1.2 Mobilize/deploy IFRC delegates available in-country to support PRC in its immediate response.				

Quality programming

Needs analysis: This DREF allocation will support deployment of rapid assessment teams to quickly determine needs of the affected population – which is crucial in informing the development of a detailed action plan. Based on further information and rapid assessments to be carried out when safety conditions permit, additional assistance may be requested through the IFRC international disaster response mechanisms.

Outcome 2: Continuous and detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation.				
Output 2.1: Needs assessments are conducted and response plans updated according to findings.				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
2.1.1 Mobilize PRC staff and volunteers for assessments.				
2.1.2 Mobilize/deploy IFRC delegates available in-country to support PRC in conducting assessments.				
2.1.3 Undertake assessments to determine specific needs of beneficiaries.				
2.1.4 Develop a response plan with activities that will meet identified beneficiary needs.				
Output 2.2: Additional assistance is considered where appropriate and incorporated into the plan				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
2.2.1 Ensure that any adjustments to initial plans are informed by continuous assessment of needs and through established feedback mechanisms.				
2.2.2 Conduct post-action surveys to determine the level of satisfaction among beneficiaries.				

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Needs analysis: In the aftermath of the typhoon, there will be a need to support immediate access to safe water supply pending repair of sources that may be damaged. Environmental sanitation activities, including clearing of debris and other community clean-up efforts, are also likely to be needed in the aftermath of the typhoon. In affected communities, cleaning campaigns together with solid waste management activities will aim to reduce health risks associated with poor sanitation. Hygiene promotion activities will also be needed to improve hygiene behavioural and bridge knowledge and practice of safe water and food handling as well as hygiene practices such as hand-washing so as to mitigate the threat of preventable diseases.

Population to be assisted: The 1,000 households targeted with jerry cans, mosquito nets and hygiene kits will also be reached with hygiene promotion. People in evacuation centres and communities will be provided with safe drinking water, including via trucking and bladders.

Outcome 3: Risk of waterborne, water-related and vector-borne diseases in communities affected by Typhoon Maysak reduced.				
Output 3.1: Access to safe water by affected communities increased.				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
3.1.1. Provide affected households in evacuation centres and in the community with safe water				
3.1.2. Collaborate with the relief sector in providing safe water storage containers to target households.				
Output 3.2: Access to adequate sanitation in affected communities increased.				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
3.2.1. Mobilize and deploy PRC equipment for debris clearing.				
3.2.2. Mobilize community members to undertake environmental sanitation activities, including debris clearing.				
Output 3.3: Knowledge, attitude and practice on safe water, sanitation and hygiene by target population increased.				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
3.3.1. Collaborate with the relief sector in providing hygiene kits and hygiene promotion for the usage of safe water storage containers.				
3.3.2. Recruit and train new or mobilize existing community health volunteers to participate in hygiene promotion activities, in coordination with the health team.				
3.3.3. Conduct hygiene promotion activities in target communities, in collaboration with the health team and other sectors.				

Shelter and settlements (and household items)

Needs analysis: Based on previous experience, needs can be expected in the sectors of immediate relief and emergency shelter as thousands of households risk being displaced if their houses are damaged or destroyed. Furthermore, thousands of households are expected to seek 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, sleeping mats, blankets, hygiene kits, and jerry cans as well as emergency shelter items (tarpaulins).

Population to be assisted: Up to 1,000 households will be assisted with emergency shelter (tarpaulins) and non-food relief items.

Outcome 4: The immediate shelter and settlement needs of the population affected by Typhoon Maysak are met.				
Output 4.1: Essential household items are provided to the target population.				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
4.1.1 Identify, register, verify and mobilize beneficiaries for distributions.				
4.1.2 Mobilize and transport non-food items to affected areas.				
4.1.3 Distribute non-food items to 1,000 affected households.				
Output 4.2: Emergency shelter assistance is provided to the target population.				
<i>Activities planned</i>	Month	1	2	3
4.2.1 Identify, register, verify and mobilize beneficiaries for distributions.				
4.2.2 Mobilize and transport emergency shelter items (tarpaulins) to the affected area.				
4.2.3 Distribute emergency shelter items to 1,000 affected households.				

ANNEX 1: 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
Adequate support (technical, material, and financial) is available for the operation	All	M	H	Can mitigate
Future disasters do not impact upon the same areas potentially affected by Maysak and/or different 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
Health issues such as dengue do not affect availability of programme management staff and volunteers	All	M	M	Factor programme planning

Contact information

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

- **Philippine Red Cross**
 - Gwendolyn Pang, secretary general, +63 2 525 5654; secgen@redcross.org.ph
- **IFRC Philippines country office**
 - Kari Isomaa, head of delegation, +63 2 336 8622; kari.isomaa@ifrc.org
 - Patrick Elliott, operations manager, +63 998 961 2140; patrick.elliott@ifrc.org
- **IFRC South-East Asia regional delegation, Bangkok**
 - Anne Leclerc, head of regional delegation, +66 2661 8201; anne.leclerc@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Asia Pacific zone office, Kuala Lumpur**
 - Martin Faller, head of operations, email: martin.faller@ifrc.org
 - Necephor Mghendi, operations coordinator, +6012 224 6796; necephor@mghendi@ifrc.org
 - Patrick Fuller, communications manager; phone: +60 3 9207 5705; email: patrick.fuller@ifrc.org
 - Emilia Koski, relationship manager; mobile: +60 12 230 7548, email: emilia.koski@ifrc.org
 - Peter Ophoff, head of planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER), +60 3 9207 5775, peter.ophoff@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Geneva:**
 - Christine South, operations support; phone: +41 22 730 4529, email: christine.south@ifrc.org



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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**.

DREF OPERATION

02/04/2015

MDRPH018 Philippines - Typhoon Maysak

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	33,373
Clothing & Textiles	10,840
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	15,198
Utensils & Tools	5,203
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	64,614
Storage, Warehousing	650
Distribution & Monitoring	2,500
Transport & Vehicle Costs	11,707
Logistics Services	10,000
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	24,858
National Society Staff	4,427
Volunteers	5,951
Total PERSONNEL	10,378
Travel	7,150
Information & Public Relations	1,584
Office Costs	434
Communications	889
Financial Charges	2,000
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	12,057
Programme and Services Support Recovery	7,274
Total INDIRECT COSTS	7,274
TOTAL BUDGET	119,180