

# EMERGENCY APPEAL

## The Philippines | Severe Tropical Storm Kristine



A Philippine Red Cross (PRC) Emergency Response Unit (ERU) volunteer assists stranded and evacuating individuals due to major flooding on the National Highway in Milaor, Camarines Sur. (Photo: PRC)

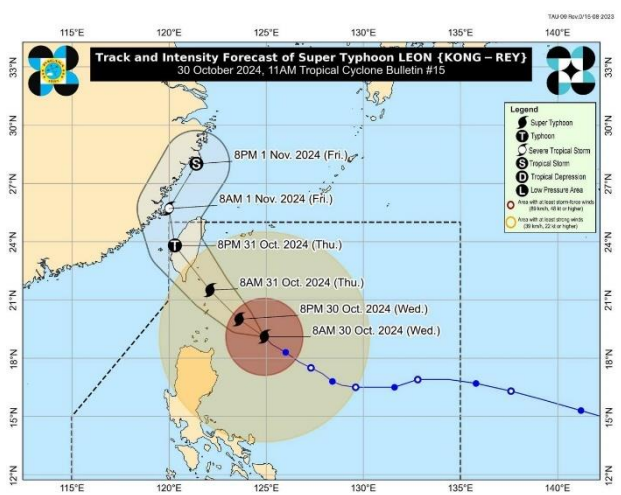
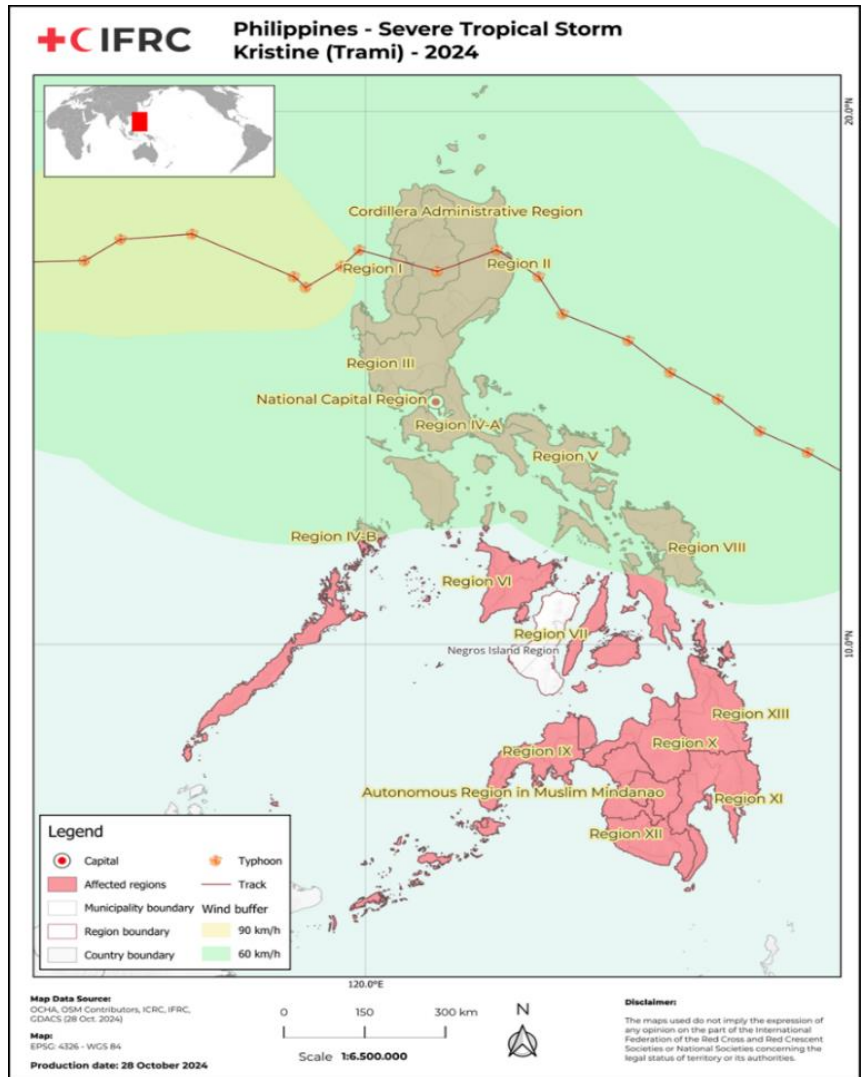
Appeal No: <b>MDRPH056</b>	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirements: <b>CHF 5.3 million</b> Federation-wide Funding requirements: <b>CHF 7.5 million<sup>1</sup></b>	
Glide No: <a href="#">TC-2-24-000193-PHL</a>	People affected: <b>7,134,954 people</b>	People to be assisted: <b>14,250 families (71,250 people)</b>
DREF allocation: <b>CHF 900,000</b>	Appeal launched: <b>30/10/2024</b>	Appeal ends: <b>31/10/2025</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Federation-wide funding requirement encompasses all financial support to be directed to the Philippine Red Cross in response to the emergency. It includes the Philippine Red Cross' domestic fundraising requests and the fundraising appeals of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (CHF 2.2 million), as well as the funding requirements of the IFRC secretariat (CHF 5.3 million). This comprehensive approach ensures that all available resources are mobilised to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the affected communities.

# SITUATION OVERVIEW

Severe Tropical Storm Kristine (Trami) entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) as a tropical depression on 21 October 2024. It affected the entire Luzon and Visayas island regions extending to parts of Mindanao in the south. Even before making landfall, it caused severe flooding and landslides that impacted a significant number of people, especially in areas which were hit by the trough. The heavy rainfall led to lahars flowing from Mount Mayon Volcano in the Bicol Region, which severely impacted both lives and livelihoods. On 24 October, STS Kristine made landfall in Isabela province in northeast Luzon, then crossed to Ifugao, Mountain Province, and Ilocos Sur province on the same day. Kristine exited Luzon through Ilocos Sur, though the trough of the STS continued to unleash heavy rain and winds across vast areas, severely impacting Region 3, 4A, and 5. On 25 October, STS Kristine exited the Philippine Area of Responsibility and made a landfall in Vietnam on 27 October. In the Philippines, Severe Tropical Storm Kristine was the eleventh tropical cyclone, with an average of 20 tropical cyclones impacting the country in a year. Sometimes the same areas are impacted repeatedly, with multiple tropical cyclones and associated hazards intensifying disasters manyfold. This is due to existing vulnerabilities and a limited capacity for recovery, compounded by the frequency and recurrence of these events.

At the time of publishing this Emergency Appeal, Super Typhoon Kong-Rey (locally known as Leon) is passing over the extreme northern region of Luzon, affecting some of the islands. The full impact of this typhoon on the Philippines is not yet clear, nonetheless, some of the areas heavily affected by STS Kristine are now under Cyclone Wind Signal Level 2. If there is a major impact from Leon, assessments will be conducted to determine the need for additional support in potentially overlapping areas.



Severe Tropical Storm Kristine has caused devastating impacts across **17 regions**. Approximately **7.1 million people were affected** causing widespread displacement with **935,114 individuals residing either in evacuation centres** or taking shelter outside of them with their relatives or friends. Kristine left **83,777 houses damaged** and more than **61,746 hectares of crops washed away**, severely affecting transportation and communication networks. It is the deadliest tropical cyclone to hit the Philippines this year.



The extensive crop losses have made food access a major challenge for at-risk and hard to reach communities whose livelihoods were damaged or disrupted by the floods, including notably vulnerable individuals, such as pregnant and lactating mothers. Along with houses, significant damage to power infrastructure, bridges, and other critical facilities has also been reported. ([NDRRMC SitRep No. 15](#), [OCHA FLASH UPDATE 2](#))

Access to safe drinking water and sanitation was affected in 32 cities and municipalities. Over 900,000 people residing in evacuation centres have limited access to basic health care services, safe drinking water, and sanitation facilities, increasing the risk of disease outbreaks. The Department of Health anticipates an increase in leptospirosis cases in the next two weeks due to the severe flooding. ([NDRRMC SitRep No. 15](#) and the [Department of Health](#))

Kristine displaced 935,111 individuals, with 531,387 taking refuge in evacuation centres and 403,727 being assisted outside of them. Protection remains a top concern, as overcrowding and the lack of privacy in evacuation centres leaves women and children exposed to risks. Establishing safe spaces for women and children and the deploying gender-based violence response teams must be prioritised. According to the Department of Education, PHP 3.3 billion worth of infrastructure was damaged in over 38,000 schools. The reconstruction of severely damaged classrooms will cost PHP 2.7 billion, while an additional PHP 680 million is needed for major repairs. As a result, 90 per cent of enrolled children will experience learning disruptions, with in-person classes suspended in 38,333 schools, affecting approximately 19.4 million students, and disrupting the work of 786,726 teaching and non-teaching personnel. Major efforts are needed to safeguard children and expedite repairs to restore normalcy in their education. ([NEWS - GMA](#), [Save the Children](#), [OCHA](#))

Additionally, 353 cities and municipalities experienced power outages, resulting in a complete loss of communication in 57 municipalities and cities. ([NDRRMC SitRep No. 15](#))

## TARGETING

This operation aims to meet the immediate, lifesaving, and early recovery needs of the estimated **71,250 most vulnerable people (14,250 families)** in eight provinces: Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte, Albay, Masbate in Region 5 (Bicol), and Batangas, Laguna, Cavite, and Quezon in Region 4A (Calabarzon).

The communities targeted for response and recovery operations will be those most vulnerable, hardest affected, and who have not received sufficient support from other sources. The primary groups of people include displaced individuals and families who are not targeted by other humanitarian agencies. Low-income families also require support, as they often struggle to recover and may have difficulty affording necessities like food, clothing, and shelter.

Elderly individuals need special attention due to their specific health needs and mobility limitations, which make them more at risk during and after the disaster. Women and children, particularly pregnant, lactating women and female-led households face heightened protection risks, including gender-based violence and limited access to basic, lifesaving services, education, and healthcare. People with disabilities encounter unique challenges in accessing emergency services, making them particularly vulnerable in disaster situations. The Philippines has higher disability rates compared to the global average – 12 per cent of Filipinos aged 15 and older live with severe disabilities, another 47 per cent experience moderate disabilities, and 23 per cent face mild disabilities. Those belonging to this group may experience significant difficulties in accessing humanitarian assistance.

Farmers and fisherfolk are significantly affected as they rely on the land and water for their livelihoods and suffer substantial losses during floodings. Finally, communities in high-risk areas, such as flood-prone locations or informal settlements, are especially susceptible to recurring hardships and should be prioritised for assistance. By targeting displaced individuals, low-income families, the elderly, women and children, individuals with disabilities, farmers and fisherfolk, and residents in high-risk areas, assistance can effectively address immediate needs and build resilience within these communities.

Over six million people live in the hardest-hit provinces in the Bicol Region ([PSA](#)). This includes over 137,000 indigenous people, who may be disproportionately impacted by disasters, including floods, due to their lack of representation, economic disadvantages, poor infrastructure, and social inequalities that restrict their access to essential resources, including humanitarian assistance.

An analysis was conducted using available secondary data from government sources, such as National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) reports, the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Public Works and Highways, along with media reports and information from the PRC's Operations Centre. This information was validated by the PRC's local chapters. Currently, Rapid Damage and Needs Assessments (RDANA) are being undertaken in multiple locations and the initial primary findings and gaps analysis helped the PRC and IFRC teams in proposing the initial geographic areas and priority intervention strategies in different municipalities and chapters.

The PRC is prioritising provinces and municipalities based on a set of variables which cover the percentage of affected families (30 per cent), the extent of damages (including flooding and livelihood



*PRC volunteers conduct an initial assessment in Camarines Sur on 27 October 2024. (Photo: PRC)*

losses), logistical considerations, the poverty incidence ranking of provinces, and the presence of key stakeholders.

## PLANNED OPERATIONS

Through this Emergency Appeal, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is supporting the PRC in the response to Severe Tropical Storm Kristine (locally known as Trami). This operation aims to reach 71,250 people and will focus on the provision of immediate relief to respond to the basic needs of the affected population and to mitigate the impact of the disaster on people's health, hygiene, and sanitation needs as well as livelihood opportunities, as outlined below:

### Integrated Services

*(Shelter, Cash, and Livelihood Assistance)*

Multipurpose cash assistance will be offered to meet the immediate needs of the affected population, prioritising their overall well-being and dignity.

Considering the number of families whose livelihoods are lost, emergency food assistance will be prioritised to ensure immediate food and nutrition security of the most vulnerable families. This assistance will be delivered in the form of hot meals, and food packs (for three days for a family of five).



The PRC, which has been supporting local government units in clearing debris, mud, and stranded vehicles, will continue to provide essential household items such as sleeping kits, kitchen sets, jerry cans, and hygiene kits to the most affected families who have lost essential supplies due to flooding.

Household livelihood assistance (in the form of conditional and restricted cash transfers) will be provided in areas where livelihoods have been severely impacted, primarily focusing on fisherfolks and farmers. Furthermore, the PRC will implement Community-Managed Livelihood Projects and Community Savings Groups to complement recovery efforts by improving the financial resilience of communities through collaborations, financial literacy promotion, and skill building. The focus remains on promoting income augmenting livelihoods activities that are locally viable and aligned with their existing skill sets and expertise.

### Health and Care including Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

*(Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/Community Health)*

The PRC has prioritised search and rescue activities in the initial phase of the operation, deploying teams and rolling assets to assist and accompany submerged and affected community members to safety, focusing on children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women, and persons needing medical attention.



The PRC has deployed first aid teams and ambulances to support injured individuals and those with medical needs. Furthermore, the PRC will deploy mobile health teams through Health Caravans to provide immediate access to basic health care services and establish local referral systems to people who need higher levels of medical services, prioritising vulnerable groups such as children, pregnant women, the elderly, and people with existing medical conditions.

Prolonged flooding often leads to disease outbreaks which, in turn, can lead to public health emergencies. PRC volunteers will conduct disease prevention campaigns, together with health and hygiene promotion activities using a range of methodologies and platforms for key messaging on high-risk health concerns, including leptospirosis, skin infections, dengue, and diarrheal diseases, thereby increasing the capacity and resiliency of the community on mitigating health risks brought by disasters. Mother and newborn kits will also be provided.

The water sources of the affected communities have been contaminated due to flooding. In response, the PRC will deploy its WASH assets such as water tankers, water bladders, filtration units, and tablets to provide access to clean and potable water. Mosquito nets, family hygiene kits, and jerry cans will also be provided as part of the relief distribution.

Welfare desks will be established to provide psychosocial first aid and other mental health and psycho-social support services.

Depending on the needs of the affected communities, the PRC will support local governments in rehabilitating damaged water and sanitation facilities as part of its commitment to strengthening health systems.

### **Protection and Prevention**

*(Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), Community Engagement and Accountability, and Education)*

The PRC will implement PGI Minimum Standards in Emergencies throughout this operation to ensure that all relief efforts are inclusive and do no harm.

The targeting of populations will be based on assessed risks and needs, focusing on at-risk groups such as women-headed households, pregnant or lactating women, families with persons with disability, older people, those suffering from chronic illnesses, families with children under five years of age, families who have not received any or sufficient assistance from other agencies, those belonging to socially marginalised groups, and those who lack the resources to meet basic humanitarian needs on their own.



The PRC will assess the risks posed to children by this operation and ensure that safeguarding measures for all at-risk groups are in place and integrated across the different interventions.

To address the disruption of education and damage to school infrastructure, the PRC will provide school kits to children and materials to schools that were affected by the floods. Additionally, the PRC will set up child-friendly spaces to protect children in evacuation centres by restoring a sense of normalcy by offering age-appropriate and child-friendly activities.

Community engagement and accountability, including feedback mechanisms, will be integrated into the operation to ensure accessible and inclusive community participation and direct access to information on the nature and scope of services.

## Enabling approaches

The sectoral interventions outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

### Coordination and Partnerships

The PRC's national headquarters and local chapters are regularly coordinating with local authorities on gaps and needs in regards to response efforts. The chapters are currently coordinating with local government units (LGUs) to gather situational and operational updates to respond in a timely and appropriate manner in the most affected communities, complementing the efforts of LGUs and other agencies. At the national level, the PRC is collaborating with appropriate authorities, notably the NDRRMC.



The IFRC Secretariat will support the PRC, which is leading the overall response operation, by ensuring a coordinated approach with the Participating National Societies (PNS) present in the Philippines as well as National Societies supporting the PRC without having a direct presence in the country.

The PRC and IFRC have been continuously coordinating with various government and non-government agencies, including members of the Humanitarian Country Team. Furthermore, the PRC, IFRC, ICRC, and PNSs will continue to coordinate through established platforms such as Movement Coordination meetings hosted by the National Society.

### Shelter Cluster Coordination

In support of the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development, the lead agency in the Government of the Philippines cluster structure, the IFRC will co-lead the Philippines Shelter Cluster in providing coordination services to harmonise the humanitarian shelter response to the damaging impact of Typhoon Kristine, and will include coordinating damage assessments, prioritising the shelter sector, and providing guidance on shelter standards.



### IFRC Secretariat Services

The IFRC's Philippines Country Delegation will support the PRC by providing technical and operational support as needed to ensure accountability and compliance throughout the operation.



A Federation-wide approach will be maintained in planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting, and evaluation. Reporting and monitoring of the operation's targets will be carried out in accordance with IFRC monitoring and reporting standards.

The IFRC will provide the necessary support to the operation to effectively manage procurement and finance processes according to IFRC standards and procedures.

## National Society Strengthening

All volunteers involved in the operation will be insured under the PRC's Membership and Accident Assistance Benefit (MAAB).

As part of National Society Development (NSD) in emergencies, some of the chapters will be supported with basic infrastructure and equipment, which have either been damaged or worn-out during the response and recovery operations. Water supplies have been a major part of the PRC's operation and procurement of some water treatment equipment, water tankers, and water storage bladders may be required to ensure the PRC's enhanced response capacity in the future.



Significant focus will be placed on mobilising, engaging, and training RC143 volunteers across this emergency operation.

The Emergency Appeal will also support the PRC in realising their NSD goals as envisioned in the One PRC Plan and the Unified Plan 2025.

The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal launch. Details of the operation will be updated through the Operational Strategy to be released in the coming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation-wide approach, which includes the response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

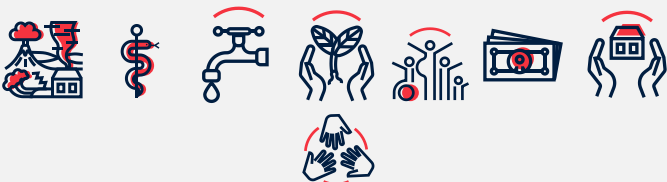
After 31 October 2025, the response activities to this disaster will continue under the [IFRC Network Philippines Country Plan for 2025](#). The IFRC Network Country Plans show an integrated view of the ongoing emergency responses and longer-term programming tailored to the needs in the country, as well as a Federation-wide view of the country's actions. This aims to streamline activities under one plan, while still ensuring that the needs of those affected by the disaster are met in an accountable and transparent way. Information will be shared in due course, should there be a need for an extension of the crisis-specific response beyond the above-mentioned timeframe.

## RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY



### Philippine Red Cross

#### Core areas of operation



Republic Act No. 10072 of the Philippines recognises the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) as an auxiliary to the public authorities and the nation's largest humanitarian organisation. The PRC operates through 102 chapters covering all administrative districts and major cities in the country.

With more than 1,900 staff at its national headquarters and chapter levels, the PRC is supported by approximately one million volunteers and supporters, including over 541,000 active volunteers. At the chapter level, the Red Cross 143 programme ensures a robust presence of trained and equipped volunteers

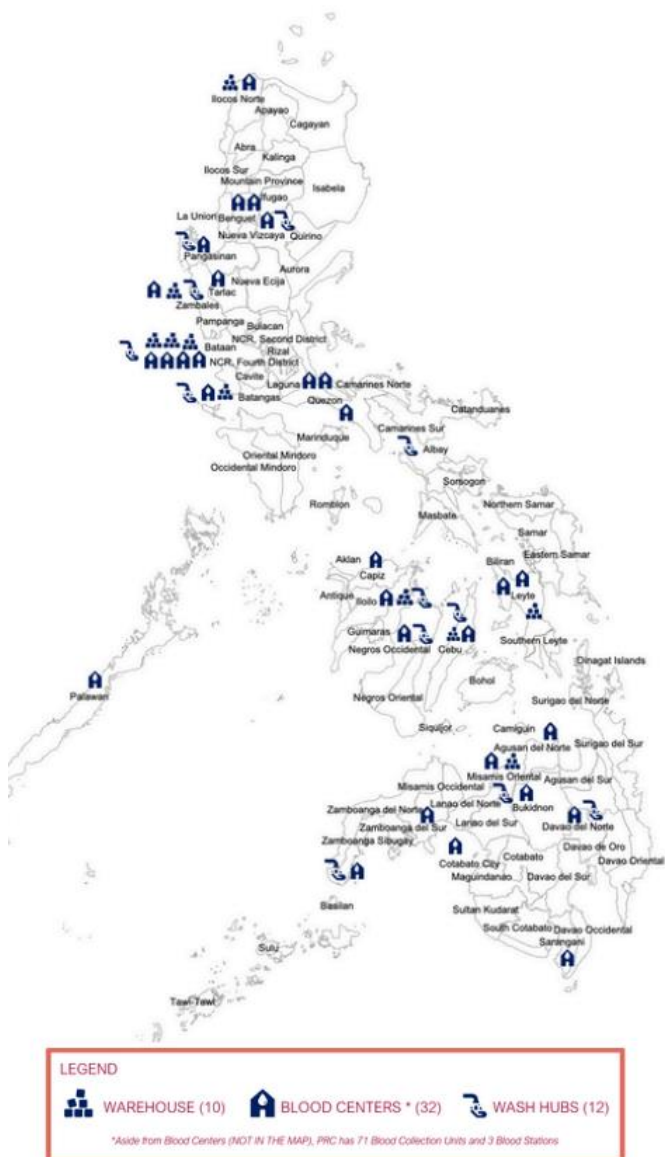
Number of staff:	<b>1,923</b>
Number of volunteers:	<b>541,000</b>
Number of branches	<b>102</b>



on standby at the community (barangay) level, thus enhancing the National Society's overall capacity to prepare for and respond to disaster situations.

The PRC's core programmes and services include blood services, disaster management and relief services, dissemination of international humanitarian law, health services, safety services, social services, volunteers, and youth.

## CRITICAL RESPONSE ASSET MAP



### IFRC Membership coordination

The PRC is working closely with IFRC, with the IFRC Philippine Delegation supporting the PRC in sharing updates with the IFRC network in-country. Currently, there are six PNSs in the Philippines (Spanish Red Cross, German Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, American Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, and Canadian Red Cross), three of which have a special focus on disaster risk reduction and disaster risk financing. The IFRC is in daily contact with partners, providing regular updates on the ongoing operations.

Regular partner briefings have been organised since the onset of the situation to share updates and discuss potential support for the operation. Several partners have expressed their willingness to contribute to and support the operation, while funding confirmations are currently in process.

### Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is present in the Philippines, with its headquarters in Manila, an operational base, and a warehouse on Mindanao Island.

With support from the German Red Cross, American Red Cross, and IFRC, the National Society monitored the situation using the IBF Portal of the 510 model and conducted community assessments (data collection) under the Flood Early Action Protocol in preparation for a possible activation before the landfall of STS Kristine. While triggers were eventually met in some river basins under the EAP, there was insufficient lead time to activate it as the impact had already occurred. The PRC, in collaboration with the German Red Cross, is documenting lessons learned from this process to improve EAP activation and trigger monitoring processes for future emergencies.

Moreover, the American Red Cross has pledged support to the PRC through the Quick Action Fund, which will be utilised for the PRC's Humanitarian Caravan deployed to Camarines Sur and provide hot meals in the municipality during the immediate response phase. The German Red Cross has pledged complementary support to address any gaps in the PRC's Kristine operation as part of its Advancing DRR and Anticipation in the Most Vulnerable Communities in the Philippines (ADRRA) initiative. For this response, the PRC has mobilised prepositioned jerry cans from Canadian Red Cross-supported stock.

## **External coordination**

As an auxiliary to the public authorities, the PRC maintains a strong relationship with government bodies through active participation and collaboration with the NDRRMC.

The PRC and IFRC are continuously coordinating with various government and non-government agencies, including members of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). Participating agencies have shared situational information and updates on their preparedness and response activities. The Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG), together with its partners, are on the ground in many of the most affected areas conducting harmonised needs assessments, which will be consolidated into an initial assessment report by OCHA. An ad hoc HCT meeting was called on 30 October 2024 to consolidate the combined response of HCT members to the effects of STS Kristine. The published Emergency Appeal will be shared with HCT partners to improve their understanding of the interventions and the role of the Red Cross in the country, as well as to solicit support and collaboration, where possible.

Currently, the Shelter Cluster Coordinator is assisting the Department of Human Settlement and Urban Development (DHSUD) with situational analysis and providing support to other shelter cluster partners through information sharing and coordination. Additional responsibilities may be undertaken if the shelter cluster is activated in response to STS Kristine.

## Contact information

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

### **At the Philippine Red Cross:**

- **Secretary General:** Dr. Gwendolyn Pang; email: [gwenpang@redcross.org.ph](mailto:gwenpang@redcross.org.ph), phone: +639178277421
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### **For In-Kind Donations and Mobilisation table support:**

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