Highlights

- Current major priorities for the Humanitarian Country Team are shelter and rebuilding livelihoods. Response programmes continue across affected areas.
- Processing lumber from felled coconut trees is a top priority, and new partners are required immediately to complete the processing in the next few weeks.
- Rainfall has displaced 54 families in Capiz Province in Western Visayas and resulted in mudslides in Tacloban City. This reinforces the need for partners to bolster programmes and support early recovery in advance of the upcoming rainy season.
- The Republic of Korea military contingent has announced they will focus their activities on emergency engineering repairs, medical assistance and fumigation.

Situation Overview

Humanitarian partners continue to implement programmes across the affected areas. Finding shelter solutions and rebuilding livelihoods are the current top priorities. Partners are working with Government counterparts to find adequate short- and medium-term shelter solutions. For bunkhouses, in particular, humanitarian partners are advising on site selection, site planning, design and construction, beneficiary selection and camp management. Partners are also raising awareness of issues related to housing, land and property, such as in the areas designated as “No-Build Zones” by authorities. Lumber from fallen coconut trees must urgently be used, as it will rot or otherwise degrade within the next two months.

Rainfall in Regions VI and VIII is already testing the resilience of communities affected by Typhoon Haiyan. In Capiz Province (Region VI), rains have caused flooding and the evacuation of 54 families. Humanitarian partners are providing non-food assistance. In Tacloban City, some major roads were blocked for a few hours due to mudslides on 2 January. The accumulation of debris and improperly managed household waste continue to pose health risks, particularly as the rains increase in the coming weeks.

The recent rains emphasize the importance of strong engagement to promote a smooth transition to early recovery, particularly in shelter and debris clearance programmes. Concurrently, humanitarian partners are actively trying to encourage private companies to become involved in waste recycling and mobilizing trucks and heavy equipment to clear roads in remote areas.

On communication with communities, recent research in Guiuan indicates that 81 per cent of surveyed individuals felt that humanitarian agencies did listen to them. Nearly 60 per cent still wanted more frequent and clearer information. Less than 50 per cent of pre-typhoon radio stations are operating in affected areas, and television stations have no local content.

For more information, see “background on the crisis” at the end of the report
Funding

A total of US$608 million has been contributed to the Typhoon Haiyan response as of 2 January, according to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS). Of this total, $328 million has been contributed to the Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for Haiyan (closely aligned to the Government’s Recovery Assistance on Yolanda (RAY)), by over 80 entities including Member States, the Central Emergency Response Fund, multilateral institutions, private companies and individuals.

For updated funding figures, visit the Typhoon Haiyan page on FTS at: http://bit.ly/17lyKgJ.

Typhoon Haiyan Action Plan

US$788 million requested

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All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA’s Financial Tracking Service (FTS - http://fts.unocha.org)

Overview of the humanitarian situation in western Leyte (Leyte Province, Region VIII)

Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) affected 18 municipalities in western Leyte Island. The greatest damage occurred in a radius of about 50 km north and south of Ormoc City, from halfway through San Isidro Municipality to halfway through Baybay City. According to figures released by the Shelter Cluster, 180,153 houses have been affected, including 75,555 that were destroyed. A total of 884,546 people were affected. Overall, western Leyte appears to have suffered less than eastern Leyte and Samar, although conditions still call for a robust response.

Officially, no evacuation centres remain in western Leyte, although an unknown number of people are considered secondarily displaced, living in churches or other places. IDPs that were in evacuation centres mostly left when schools outside of worst affected areas reopened on 2 December 2013. No outbreak has been reported of diseases such diarrhoea (recorded sporadically), dysentery or cholera, and the number of trauma cases has gradually decreased since the typhoon. Although there is no scarcity of water, concerns persist over water quality, sanitation and hygiene. Some of these issues were present in western Leyte even before the typhoon struck.

Humanitarian partners have worked with Government counterparts to provide food, NFI distributions, health programmes, and support to education. The Australian Defence Force, which completed its mission in Ormoc on 18 December, repaired, cleared debris and secured 182 classrooms for classes to resume in 15 schools in Ormoc City, enabling 15,100 children to go back to school. Cash-for-Work programmes have expanded since mid-December, aiding livelihoods. However, shelter programmes have been able to cover less than 20 per cent of the needs.

Western Leyte remains under-prioritized in humanitarian response, with shelter and livelihoods considered the biggest needs. More partners are also needed to provide assistance and fill gaps in municipalities outside Ormoc City, especially in the north-west and Albueria Municipality to the south.

A major challenge remains to ensure that potential risk factors which could cause a deterioration of the humanitarian situation are kept under control. This will require a more effective and efficient response by the Shelter, Food Security, WASH, Nutrition, Livelihoods and Education Clusters in particular.
Humanitarian Response

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Needs:
- Improvements to bunkhouses are needed; talks with partners are under way.

Response:
- The CCCM system including regular liaison with service providers for 68 bunkhouses and two tent camps in Eastern Samar and Marabut (Samar) is now active. The Displacement Management System (DMS) is also being established for the bunkhouses in Eastern Samar and Marabut.
- A mobile team is travelling regularly between municipalities with bunkhouses to provide DMS assistance.
- Twenty more tents will be set up in Guiuan’s tent city to relieve overcrowding. Seventy-three tents damaged last week are being repaired and replaced.

Gaps & Constraints:
- Most IDPs in evacuation centres or similar settings in Regions VI and VIII remain living in schools. The resumption of classes in January in these worst affected areas will have a significant impact on the populations living in these structures.
- CCCM requirements in the SRP are currently about 10 per cent funded, versus 39.2 per cent across clusters.

Early Recovery and Livelihoods

Needs:
- Some 5.9 million workers in nine regions were affected, with livelihoods and sources of income destroyed, lost or disrupted. Of these, 2.6 million people have been identified as most vulnerable. The cluster is targeting 400,000 of them.
- Fallen coconut trees need to be processed for shelter lumber and to boost livelihoods activities.

Response:
- As of 29 December, 290 Cluster activities (mainly emergency employment and cash-for-work programmes) have been recorded. Of these activities, 9 per cent have been completed, 54 per cent are ongoing, and 37 per cent are planned.
- In Cebu, partners are working with local authorities in 10 municipalities on emergency employment and cash-for-work for debris-clearing, restoration of public spaces and infrastructure, and livelihood activities, including skills training and business development.

Gaps & Constraints:
- Challenges persist around the lack of heavy equipment, coconut lumber salvaging, and debris recycling. More funding and more partners are urgently needed for these activities.

Education

Needs:
- There is a need to encourage children to return to school on 6 January, and scale-up the provision of teaching and learning materials.

Response:
- Educational learning materials have been provided to over 50,000 children to date.
- The “Back to Learning” task force has developed key messaging to be distributed through media and SMS for final approval by the Department of Education.
- Partners finalized distribution lists for teaching and learning materials, and distribution began on 2 January in Eastern Samar.

Gaps & Constraints:
- It is a challenge to deliver educational supplies to schools in remote areas.
**Food Security and Agriculture**

**Needs:**
- Nearly 5.6 million people require food assistance and support to prevent food insecurity and restore agricultural and fishing livelihoods.
- Estimates indicate that up to 450,000 farmer and fisher households were directly affected.

**Response:**
- In December 2013, WFP assisted over 1 million people with 7,400 tons of rice (75 per cent of planned beneficiaries and 60 per cent of planned tonnage).
- Some 100,000 beneficiaries have benefited from WFP cash transfers throughout Regions VI and VIII through partnerships with the Government and NGOs. Preparations are under way to shift into early recovery with Cash for Assets.
- Other partners have reached some 2.45 million people with a mix of food and cash assistance.
- Over 75 per cent of nearly 44,000 rice farmers have received rice seeds to plant in December/January in Regions VI and VIII. In March/April this should yield enough to feed 800,000 people for a year.

**Gaps & Constraints:**
- 65 per cent of fishing communities lost their productive assets, and around 28,000 mainly small-scale fishing boats were destroyed. Post-emergency experience shows construction of inappropriate or unsafe boats. Proper boat rehabilitation is crucial.
- 33 million trees were damaged in Region VIII alone. Affected coconut farmers have lost their livelihoods for six to nine years – the time coconut trees take to become productive again.

**Health**

**Needs:**
- Cases of dengue fever have been reported in Balangiga and Guiuan – Eastern Samar - municipalities.
- Over 3 million affected women and girls of reproductive age will require reproductive health services, including about 220,000 pregnant and 147,000 lactating women.

**Response:**
- Vaccinations are being given to some debris-removal workers in rural health units (RHU) in the Guiuan area.
- Four reproductive health missions were conducted in Capiz (Roxas City) and Leyte (Palo and Tanauan) serving 492 residents, including 200 pregnant and 238 lactating women in 21 barangays.
- Eight women-friendly space (WFS) tents have been delivered to Eastern Samar and another eight in Capiz to serve the special needs of adolescents and women of reproductive age.
- Emergency reproductive health kits were provided to RHUs in Salcedo (Eastern Samar) and Estancia (Iloilo). These kits can provide clean delivery, family planning services, treatment for STIs and medical management of sexual violence for the needs of 10,000 people in the next three months.

**Gaps & Constraints:**
- Persistent rains in Tacloban City, Borongan and surrounding areas have affected the conduct of RH services.

**Nutrition**

**Needs:**
- Priorities include: i) protection and promotion of appropriate infant and young child feeding for 250,000 pregnant women and caregivers; ii) supplementary feeding for 145,000 children; iii) micronutrient supplementation for 100,000 children; iv) treatment of acute malnutrition in 27,000 children.

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39,000 children 6-59 months received blanket supplementary feeding
Response:

- To date, 55,096 children under 5 have been screened, with 1,668 acute malnutrition cases (177 severe; 1,491 moderate) detected. 97 children have been admitted for treatment.
- 3,085 pregnant and lactating women have also been screened to date, with 109 acute malnutrition cases detected.
- Blanket supplementary feeding has reached 39,000 children aged 6-59 months in Regions VI and VIII.
- Infant and young child feeding services were provided to 5,032 pregnant and lactating women using the Barangay Nutrition Scholars network, 40 mobile counsellors and 23 mother- and baby-friendly spaces.

Gaps & Constraints:

- There are limited reports on the number of care-givers supported by the Barangay Nutrition Scholars.
- There are no partners with Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) experience in Region VII.

Response:

- In Region VIII, there are currently 77 verified cases of unaccompanied/separated children recorded in the Rapid family Tracing and reunification (FTR) system. Government social workers are working on the cases.
- It has been recommended that there should be no further investment in the relocation site in Campoyong, Guiuan, Eastern Samar due to unsuitable terrain. The 2.2 hectare site near the airport in Sapao, Guiuan, has been recommended as a relocation site for 1,200 families in no-build zones.
- The six remaining families at MSH evacuation centre (a school) in Guiuan are being assisted with returning to their homes to enable classes to resume on 6 January.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Overall planning for the process of relocating affected populations needs to be improved.

Response:

- According to Government figures, 1,127,041 houses were damaged. Of these, 548,793 were destroyed.
- People need greater access to salvaged coconut lumber for rebuilding purposes.
- The Protection Cluster reports that 60 families who were moved to SRP tent city from the Tinago evacuation centre in Cebu have expressed a need for kitchen sets.
- An Aeta community of 168 families living close to Barotac Viejo Municipality, Iloilo Province, whose houses and public buildings were destroyed, say loans to restart their businesses in coffee production have been temporarily suspended, and they need tents and tarpaulins for temporary accommodation while they rebuild their houses.

Needs:

- To date, 324,041 households have received basic emergency shelter materials.
- 29,874 households have received support for self-recovery through distribution of more durable roofing material, tool kits, cash and technical assistance.
- The Shelter Cluster is working closely with the Early Recovery and Livelihoods Cluster to explore cash-based approaches, as well as technical aspects, for salvaging and reusing coco lumber in construction.
- Partners are engaging in a dialogue with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and DSWD on standards for bunkhouses. Partners are looking to support DPWH to improve conditions in existing sites, and planning for new sites.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Funding of the shelter section of the Strategic Response Plan is currently at 22 per cent versus 42 per cent across all sectors. This is at odds with huge shelter needs.
- The Protection Cluster reports that there is an urgent need to discuss shelter gaps with the local authorities in northern Cebu.
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:
- Municipalities in western Leyte still require WASH support; agencies with spare capacity are encouraged to fill the gap.

Response:
- Partners have been promoting WASH activities in 50 schools in nine municipalities in Iloilo Province, targeting 20,000 students.
- Partners have provided 27,509 water kits for 151,300 affected people in Eastern Samar to date.
- 1,858 IDPs have been served so far with access to improved sanitation facilities in camp settings in Eastern Samar.
- 34,290 hygiene kits have been distributed to 188,595 affected people in Eastern Samar since the typhoon struck.
- Filipino singer Rico Blanco has participated in a hygiene promotion activity, visiting barangays in Tacloban, Palo, Tanauan, Mayorga and Dulag, boosting hygiene promotion and participation of children.

Communication with Communities

Needs:
- Fewer than 50 per cent of local radio networks operating before the storm have resumed broadcasting. No TV stations are broadcasting locally generated content.
- A recent survey in Guiuan indicated that 33 per cent of respondents have no access to media or ICT.

Response:
- A large range of messaging continues to be shared with the community covering topics such as dengue, what to expect from a safe food distribution, and information on back-to-school activities.
- Radjo Bakdaw continues to broadcast in Guiuan and the Philippines Information Agency's Power FM continues in Tacloban. FRR will resume broadcasting in Tacloban on or around 10 January.
- To date, approximately 2,000 radios have been distributed. A further 1,500 are in the pipeline.

Gaps & Constraints:
- A minimum of a further 10,000 radios are required for distribution.
- There is a lack of developed systems to identify and respond to broad-based community information needs.

Emergency Telecommunications

Response:
- Staff from a number of organizations have moved into inter-agency offices in Cebu and Guiuan after ETC completed the installation of ICT infrastructure. Internet, printing and helpdesk services are now being provided in both locations.
- ETC continues to establish new microwave internet links between its offices in Tacloban and organizations based in Palo.
- ETC continues to facilitate rapid connection to local Internet Service Provider PLDT for humanitarian organizations based in Tacloban. This ensures quick, easy and efficient access to high bandwidth connectivity.
- ETC Internet services are now being provided in 24 locations across six different towns to over 5,300 humanitarian workers.
Logistics

Response:

- Since 30 December 2013, 2,189m³ (168 tons) of relief items have been transported on behalf of different organizations by the Logistics Cluster.
- Barge Victoria will leave Cebu for Isabel (cargo for onward movement to Ormoc and Tacloban) and Guiuan on 3 January carrying food and NFIs on behalf of six organizations. The next rotation for the barge is planned for 12 January. See details here: http://www.logcluster.org/ops/phl13a/tentative-schedule-for-interagency-cargo-transport-by-sea.
- The assessment of damaged bridges (Hilataban, Malitbog and Daguitan) and road networks in Burauen City, Leyte Province, carried out by the Logistics Cluster in collaboration with IMC, can be viewed here: http://www.logcluster.org/ops/phl13a/Logistics%20Cluster_Philippines_Assessment_Burauen%20Bridges_131228.pdf/view

Gaps & Constraints:

- Commercial warehousing remains limited. However, Logistics Cluster storage is available in key locations.

General Coordination

The Republic of Korea’s 529-member military contingent has clarified the scope of its mission, noting that it will focus on emergency engineering repairs, medical assistance and fumigation. It will not be involved in reconstruction efforts per se. Humanitarian partners are urged to note this focus.

Across affected areas, agencies implementing large-scale unconditional cash programmes are in the process of ensuring that the programmes are in line with the Cash-for-Work guidance agreed with the Government. This is based on planning information and an operational review of all financial service providers in the region. OCHA is providing support to agencies at the Manila level, while cash coordinators are in the process of deploying to Roxas and Tacloban to provide support on the ground.

Background on the crisis

Typhoon Haiyan (known locally as Yolanda) swept through the central Philippines on 8 November killing over 6,000 and displacing 4 million people, flattening homes and damaging schools, health centres and other infrastructure. Some experts estimate the storm was among the strongest ever to make landfall. On 9 November, the Government accepted the UN offer of international assistance. The Government also welcomed the deployment, in the initial phase of disaster response, of a large number of countries’ military assets. The humanitarian community’s Strategic Response Plan calling for $788 million is closely aligned to the Government’s Reconstruction Assistance on Yolanda (RAY, formerly referred to as the Yolanda Recovery and Rehabilitation Plan) that was launched on 18 December 2013.

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