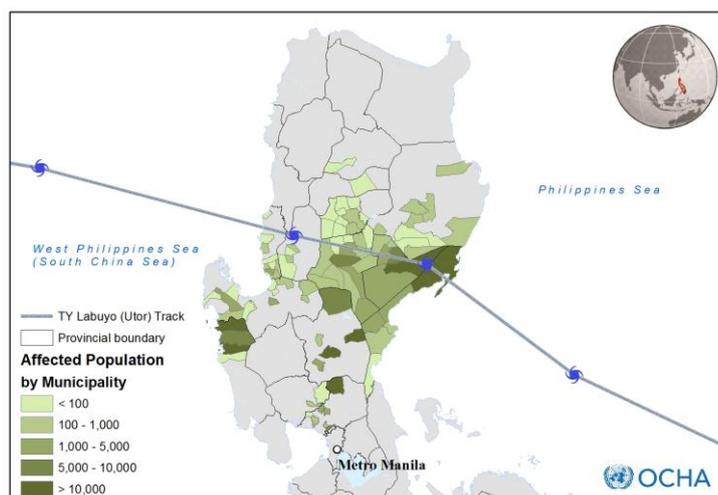




This report is produced by OCHA Philippines in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by OCHA Philippines. It covers the period from 13 to 15 August 2013, and it is the final situation report in this series.

## Highlights

- The authorities are responding to the immediate needs of the people affected by Typhoon Utor (locally known as *Labuyo*) in northern Luzon.
- Eight men have died and 59,500 people are taking shelter in 6 evacuation centres and in the homes of relatives and friends.
- The Office of Civil Defense and regional authorities will conduct a post-disaster needs assessment by the end of August to determine the response to the needs in infrastructure, agriculture and livelihoods in particular.
- There has been no request for international assistance so far.



Source: NDRRMC Sitrep No.13, 15 August 2013, 5 a.m.

<b>8</b> Reported dead	<b>16</b> of the 80 provinces affected	<b>59,500</b> People evacuated	<b>6</b> Evacuation centres	<b>12,090</b> Houses damaged	<b>16 million</b> US\$ of damage in agriculture
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Source: NDRRMC Sitrep No.13, 15 August 2013, 5 a.m.

## Situation Overview

The Government-led emergency response is well underway four days after Typhoon Utor (locally known as *Labuyo*) made landfall as a Category 3 typhoon in Casiguran municipality of Aurora province on the eastern coast of the island of Luzon. The authorities continue to respond to the immediate needs of about 59,500 typhoon-affected people with search and rescue operations, clearing blocked roads and repairing damaged bridges, restoring power and communications, and distributing relief items such as family food packs.

On 13 August, the head of the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), the lead agency of the national disaster management authority, undertook an aerial survey of areas most affected by the typhoon: Dinalungan, Casiguran and Dilasag municipalities (total population of 50,500 people) in northern Aurora province. He visited the affected communities

**Table 1. Figures on evacuees, evacuation centres and damage to houses by affected region**

Region	No. of evacuation centres	Displaced people			Total population	Houses	
		In evacuation centres	Not in evacuation centres	Total		Destroyed	Partially damaged
Region I						9	6
Region II	1	123	35,944	36,067	3.2 million	419	4,863
Region III	5	535	22,811	23,346	10.1 million	1,002	5,620
Region V			42	42	5.4 million	7	1
CAR					1.6 million	4	159
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>58,797</b>	<b>59,455</b>		<b>1,441</b>	<b>10,649</b>

Source: NDRRMC Sitrep No.13, 15 August 2013, 5 a.m.; National Statistics Office, 2010 Census of Population and Housing

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

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with local officials and concluded that the impact of the typhoon is well within the capacity of the Local Government Units (LGUs) to respond with the support of regional authorities. On 12 August, the acting United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator offered assistance to the Government, which has been acknowledged.

The typhoon affected more than 281,700 people across 16 provinces of Regions I, II, III, V and the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) on the island of Luzon, according to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC). Of these people, 658 are in 6 evacuation centres and some 58,800 people are seeking refuge with relatives and friends (see table 1).

Eight men have died (including one older person over the age of 60 and a youth, a person between the ages of 15 and 24), seven injured and four remain missing. The number of passengers stranded in ports is down from around 8,000 to 40 people.

The evacuation centres began to close as early as 12 August, and the number of people in evacuation centres steadily decreased as evacuees returned home once the typhoon passed. At the height of the evacuation, 87 evacuation centres housed more than 36,400 people. On the contrary, the number of people living with relatives and friends has climbed. It increased by more than nine fold in the Quirino province in Region II between 14 and 15 August, from 3,200 people to 29,300 people, possibly due to improved reporting.

To date, 12,090 houses have been damaged of which 1,440 (or about 12 per cent) were destroyed. The majority of these totally damaged houses were reported in Regions II and III (see table 1). Damage to infrastructure and agriculture is estimated at Philippine peso 210 million (US\$4.8 million) and Php722 million (\$16.5 million), respectively. More than 80 per cent of the damage in agriculture is in rice and corn (Php587 million or \$13.4 million) in this pre-dominantly agricultural region.

The above figures may still rise as assessments are ongoing and some affected areas are difficult to reach, such as Casiguran and Dilasag.

**Table 2. Figures on evacuees, evacuation centres and damage to houses for Region III**

Province	No. of evacuation centres	Displaced people			Total population	Houses	
		In evacuation centres	Not in evacuation centres	Total		Destroyed	Partially damaged
Aurora	2	302	3,751	4,053	201,200	992	5,620
Bulacan	1	30	1,040	1,070	2.9 million	1	
Nueva Ecija	1	63	18,020	18,083	2.0 million		
Pampanga						6	
Zambales	1	140		140	534,400	3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>22,811</b>	<b>23,346</b>		<b>1,002</b>	<b>5,620</b>

Source: NDRRMC Sitrep No.13, 15 August 2013, 5 a.m.; National Statistics Office, 2010 Census of Population and Housing

Search and rescue operations continued in Region III on 14 August. While some areas in Pampanga, Zambales and Bataan provinces in Region III are still flooded with up to 2 feet of water, the Armed Forces of the Philippines along with other agencies continues to repair damaged bridges and clear blocked roads, particularly the Baler-Casiguran road, and restore power and telecommunications.

Of the three most-affected municipalities, access by land and partial communication were restored in Dinalungan on 14 August, and local government officials expect that the other two municipalities (i.e. Casiguran and Dilasag) will also be accessible by land by 16 August, according to the Oxfam-Humanitarian Response Consortium (HRC) Rapid Assessment Team. This will expedite relief distribution. All three municipalities are not totally isolated as they can be reached by boat. According to OCD, electricity is expected to be fully restored in about two weeks. The military engineering brigades will prioritise the rebuilding of schools so that the children can continue their studies.

The Oxfam-HRC Team reported that most local governments have pre-positioned stocks at the municipal and provincial levels to meet immediate needs of the three municipalities. Affected families themselves also generally have food supply that last for at least three days. The priority needs are in shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), medicines, psychosocial support and there is enough supply of food to last until around 20 August. Some schools and hospitals have been severely affected.

In the case of the Aurora Provincial DRRMC, the typhoon has served to test their disaster risk reduction and contingency plans for the first time, informed the Oxfam-HRC Team. It is a shared understanding among the Philippine Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) members that communities in this region on the typhoon belt have a relatively high level of resilience as a result of continuous learning and capacity building.

All Public Storm Warning Signals (PSWS) were lifted on 12 August. Schools closed on 12 August as a precautionary measure in line with PSWS, and some classes remained suspended in five provinces and the National Capital Region on 13 August. Flights resumed normal schedules on 13 August.

Typhoon Utor is the 12<sup>th</sup> of the 20 tropical cyclones forecasted to hit the Philippines this year. The national weather bureau, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), warned that rain will continue in Luzon and Visayas due to the southwest monsoon (locally known as *habagat*). With the expectation that more severe typhoons may affect the country during the remainder of the rainy season, which will last until November or December, humanitarian agencies are closely monitoring the situation in order to allocate limited resources where and when they are most needed.

## Humanitarian Response

The Government of the Philippines is leading rapid needs assessments, search and rescue operations, restoration of life-lines, distribution of immediate relief, and has already begun the planning for longer-term rehabilitation in the affected areas.

A number of provinces and municipalities in Regions II and III declared a state of calamity which remains in effect. This enables the LGUs, who are among the first responders during an emergency, to access the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund for relief and recovery programmes.

The Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (RDRRMC) member agencies of Region III provided 1,500 family food packs and medicines by 13 August to complement local response. Each pack contains three kilograms of rice and nine pieces of canned goods. In Casiguran, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) distributed 550 family food packs by boat as the town remained isolated by land travel.

Overall, DSWD, LGUs, other government agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) provided Php6.4 million (\$146,300) worth of relief assistance to the affected families so far. DSWD will provide 5,000 family food

State of Calamity is in effect in  
Region II: Quirino province  
Region III: Dinalungan, Casiguran  
and Dilasag in Aurora province;  
Candelaria, Santa Cruz and  
Masinloc municipalities in  
Zambales province

**Table 3. Existing and planned needs assessments by non-governmental organizations and the Philippine Red Cross**

Geographic areas and population groups targeted	Sectors assessed	Participating agencies	Format	Dates
Regions II and III: Aurora, Nueva Vizcaya and Quirino provinces	Multi-sector	Philippine Red Cross		Ongoing
Region II: Nueva Vizcaya province, Bayombong municipality; and Quirino province	WASH	Catholic Relief Services	Observations	Ongoing 13-14 August
Region III: Aurora province, Baler municipality	Logistics, access, Agriculture, Food, Health, Shelter, WASH	Oxfam-Humanitarian Response Consortium Rapid Assessment Team	Interviews with Provincial Social Welfare and Development (PSWD) Office and the Provincial DRRM Office (PDRRMO)	Completed 13-14 August
Region III: Aurora province, municipalities of Baler, Dipaculao, Maria Aurora, Dinalungan	Shelter, NFI, WASH, Health, Education, Child Protection, Food Security and Livelihoods	Save the Children	Interviews with the PDRRMO and the Armed Forces of the Philippines, site visits, focus group discussions	Ongoing 12-16 August
Region III: Aurora province, Baler and Dinalungan municipalities	Food, WASH, Logistics	Catholic Relief Services, Habitat for Humanity, Plan International	Interviews with PSWD	Ongoing 13-14 August
Region III: Aurora province, Dinalungan, Casiguran and Dilasag municipalities; Zambales province		Christian Aid		Ongoing
Region III: Aurora province, Baler municipality		Adventist Development and Relief Agency		Planned 15-16 August
Region III: Zambales province, municipalities of Masinloc, Candelaria, and Santa Cruz; people in evacuation centres	WASH	Catholic Relief Services		Ongoing 13-14 August
CAR: Benguet province, Tublay municipality, Barangay Ambassador; Evacuees at an elementary school	WASH	Municipal DRRMC members, Community and Family Services International	Department of Health WASH Cluster Assessment Form	Completed 12-13 August
CAR		Care, ECHO		Planned

Source: Various reports

packs to augment the local response.

In addition, the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) provided immediate assistance, such as ready-to-eat meals for 6,000 people, and set up 13 welfare desks in evacuation centres. The International Federation of the Red Cross is releasing over 320,000 Swiss francs (\$344,300) from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund to support the PRC to assist 1,500 families with non-food items, shelter repair kits and cash grants.

A number of international NGOs have undertaken rapid needs assessment within the first three days of disaster onset, which informed the HCT's overall response planning. Save the Children has distributed household kits to 207 affected families (about 1,035 people) in Dipaculao municipality in Aurora province on 14 August and where needed, plans to provide support to emergency education in the next few days. Other NGOs and media foundations have or are planning to distribute food packs based on needs. Table 3 lists existing and planned needs assessments.

There is a concern that infrastructure, agriculture and livelihood have suffered the brunt of the disaster. The livelihood of the fishermen living on Aurora Province's shoreline, which has been identified as a danger zone, and the situation of the indigenous people living in the uplands require particular attention, noted the Oxfam-HRC Team. In Barangay Calaoacan, a village of 870 people in Dipaculao, everyone lost their livelihood when all their crops were destroyed by the typhoon, according to Save the Children. Electricity is still out in this community, and it may take two months for the power to be restored.

OCD will form three teams of RDRRMC member agencies to conduct a joint multi-sectoral rapid disaster needs assessment and post-disaster needs assessment in Casiguran, Dilasag and Dinalungan within 15 days. The teams will assess immediate needs of the community and determine the response to the needs in the three sectors.

At this stage, the government at all levels (i.e. national, regional and provincial) is well placed to manage the immediate and medium-term response to the impact of Typhoon Utor. On 14 August, the national government announced that Php160 million (\$3.7 million) is available in standby fund to augment local resources of the typhoon-affected regions. In addition, the National Food Authority also maintains rice supply of 645,000 metric tons to quickly respond to any emergency rice requirement that may arise in any part of the country.

There are no requests for international assistance from the national government so far. PRC and international NGOs with long-term presence in the affected areas, such as Save the Children, are supporting the authorities where needed.

### Background on the crisis

Typhoon Utor (locally known as *Labuyo*) made landfall as a Category 3 typhoon in Casiguran municipality of Aurora province on the eastern coast of the island of Luzon on 12 August 2013, 3 a.m. local time. It recorded maximum winds of 175 kilometres per hour (kph) near the centre and gusts of up to 210 kph, causing flooding, flashfloods, landslides, a rockslide and a storm surge. The Typhoon weakened to Category 2 as it crossed northern Luzon, exited the Philippine Area of Responsibility on the same day, and headed to southeastern China. Strong winds and intense rains fell trees and electric poles, washed away bridges, and damaged houses and farmland. Typhoon Utor was the 12th and the strongest typhoon to hit the Philippines this year. It traversed an area that is prone to destructive weather patterns and where there is a high level of community preparedness. In 2010, Typhoon Megi hit a similar area as a Category 5 typhoon. There were at least 31 reported deaths and nearly 2 million people were affected.

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