



WFP / P. Herzog

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Food Security and Agriculture cluster response moves towards early recovery in Typhoon Bopha affected areas.
- Humanitarian partners engage disaster-affected hinterland communities.
- Tropical Depression Shanshan affects 260,000 people including those still recovering from Bopha.

FIGURES

Bopha Response

Displaced people inside evacuation centres	8,004
Displaced people outside evacuation centres	925,412
Houses totally or partially damaged	233,164

Source: Department of Social Welfare and Development Disaster Response Operations Monitoring and Information Center (DSWD DROMIC), 22 February 2013

FUNDING

Bopha Action Plan for Recovery

76.3 million
requested (US\$)

42% funded

Humanitarian Action Plan for Mindanao

35.5 million
requested (US\$)

0% funded

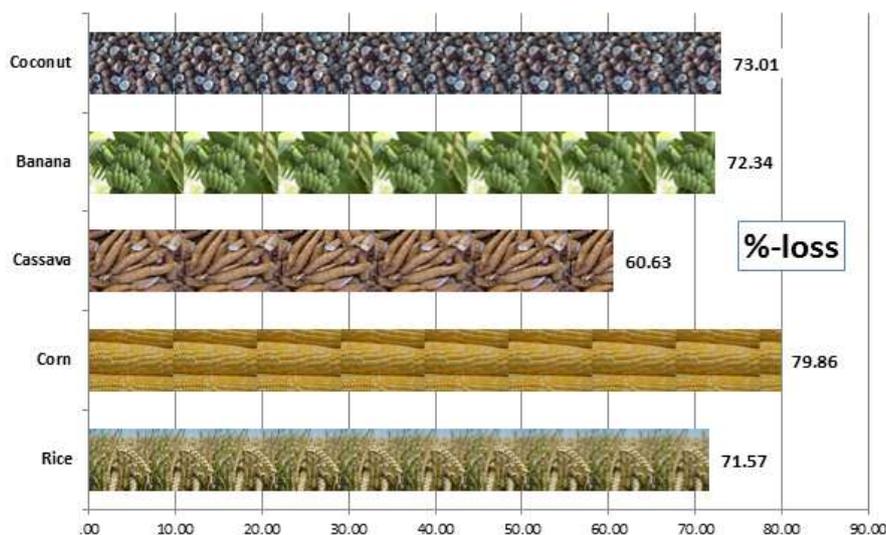
Source: Financial Tracking Service

Typhoon Bopha response

Small scale livelihood activities begin in Bopha-affected communities

Following the emergency general food distribution (family food packs) in the immediate aftermath of Typhoon Bopha, known locally as *Pablo*, in December 2012, the Food Security and Agriculture cluster's food assistance, which targets 400,000 people, will phase out by end March 2013. As the response in this cluster begins its transition from relief to early recovery, the cluster will continue to complement the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) through June 2013 by scaling up food-for-assets and cash-for-assets programmes, which target approximately 50,000 participants, to ensure food security is maintained in areas hardest-hit by Bopha. Small scale food-for-asset activities such as debris clearing and school rehabilitation began in late December in order for operations to maintain momentum as activities transition to early recovery. Targeted vulnerable groups that cannot participate in livelihood activities will, however, continue to receive general food distribution and cash support through June 2013.

Estimated damage to major crops / production



Source: Post-Typhoon Bopha (Pablo) Inter-Agency Emergency Food Security, Nutrition, and Livelihoods Assessment, January 2013

According to the Post-Typhoon Bopha Inter-Agency Emergency Food Security, Nutrition, and Livelihoods Assessment conducted in January, Bopha disrupted agricultural systems at multiple levels. The Food Security and Agriculture cluster aims to assist in the rapid rehabilitation of the agricultural sector through activities such as rice production.

For key findings of the assessment visit:

<http://philippines.humanitarianresponse.info/document/post-typhoon-bopha-inter-agency-emergency-food-security-nutrition-and-livelihoods-asesment>

Humanitarian partners engage disaster-affected communities

Humanitarian partners engage communities in Compostela Valley hinterlands

On 26 February, humanitarian partners met with indigenous communities in two remote areas of Compostela Valley affected by Bopha. Under the Communications with Communities initiative, the consultation provided an opportunity to communicate humanitarian principles as the fundamental basis for humanitarian action and better explain to the communities the mechanisms of the ongoing response. The initiative allowed the hinterland communities to directly express their perspectives to humanitarian agencies. Shelter, food and agriculture, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and protection remain priority concerns according to local leaders. Communications with Communities is currently being rolled out to other areas affected by Bopha.

More GBV cases reported with response system in place

In the first two months of the typhoon Pablo humanitarian response, 79 cases of gender-based violence (GBV) have been reported, requiring urgent and sustained action from all humanitarian actors to prevent further incidence and respond to such cases. According to the Davao Oriental GBV sub-cluster, 19 cases* of rape, human trafficking, and minors in commercial sex work have been reported in the province from December 2012 to January 2013. Prior to the disaster, the Reception and Diagnostic Centre of the DSWD in the province has recorded only 50 GBV cases over a period of 71 months (from 2007 to November 2012). In Compostela Valley, 60 GBV cases**, including four rapes, were reported to the GBV sub-cluster in the same two-month period, compared to 40 cases*** in the year prior to the disaster. The reporting of and follow-up to these cases were made possible through better GBV prevention and response coordination systems established in the typhoon-affected communities in the two provinces.

For prevention, UNFPA as the sub-cluster co-lead collaborates with the Philippine National Police, DSWD, the Department of Justice, local government units and local organisations to conduct information dissemination in evacuation camps and affected communities on relevant laws on violence against women, gender sensitivity, as well as GBV response services available at the community level. As of 31 January, the GBV sub-cluster has reached 1,796 girls and women in Davao Oriental, and 3,347 in Compostela Valley through the information sessions. To prevent and respond to GBV cases, functional provincial and municipal level referral mechanisms have been established in the two provinces, including setting up of women friendly spaces. Further capacity building is required particularly for barangay service providers.

The GBV sub-cluster advocates for mainstreaming of GBV prevention and response interventions across humanitarian clusters, such as in the equitable access of vulnerable population – particularly female headed households, pregnant and lactating women, women with disabilities – in cash-and food-for-work programmes; and provision of safe, well-lit and segregated latrines and bathing facilities, among others. The GBV sub-cluster is led by the regional and provincial DSWD and co-led by UNFPA. Its members include local government agencies and women's groups, NGOs and INGOs.

* As reported during provincial GBV sub-cluster meetings, Davao Oriental

** Report from municipal WCPD and Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) to the provincial GBV sub-cluster, Compostela Valley

*** PNP-WCPD, Compostela Valley

Key hotline numbers for Region 11

Inter-Agency Council against Trafficking-Integrated Action (IACAT) Region 11 Network	0917-7185588
Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office 11	0909-5373243
Philippine National Police (PNP) Region 11 Women and Children Protection Desk (WCPD)/Task Force Against Trafficking	0999-9915534

Mothers Against Malnutrition Campaign launched in Cateel

More than 300 mothers, caregivers, and health workers gathered in Cateel municipality, Davao Oriental during the week of 25 February at the launch of a Mothers Against Malnutrition Campaign. The campaign is a joint initiative between the Nutrition and WASH

*Tropical Depression
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those still recovering
from Bopha*

clusters working with the Department of Health to strengthen the awareness of caregivers to the symptoms of malnutrition, as well as to advise parents to take their children to health centres urgently if they suspect their child is malnourished. Health workers in the province have been trained in a new medical protocol to treat malnutrition to support their treatment. The campaign aims to prevent malnutrition through promoting exclusive breast feeding and better hygiene practices such as hand washing before preparing food and before meals.

A “communications for emergencies” strategy was developed in the aftermath of the typhoon, in an effort to address an increasing number of malnutrition cases in both Davao Oriental and Compostela Valley. Since December 2012, a total of 23,366 children under-five have been screened in both provinces. Of these, 894 suffered from Moderate Acute Malnutrition and 279 from Severe Acute Malnutrition.



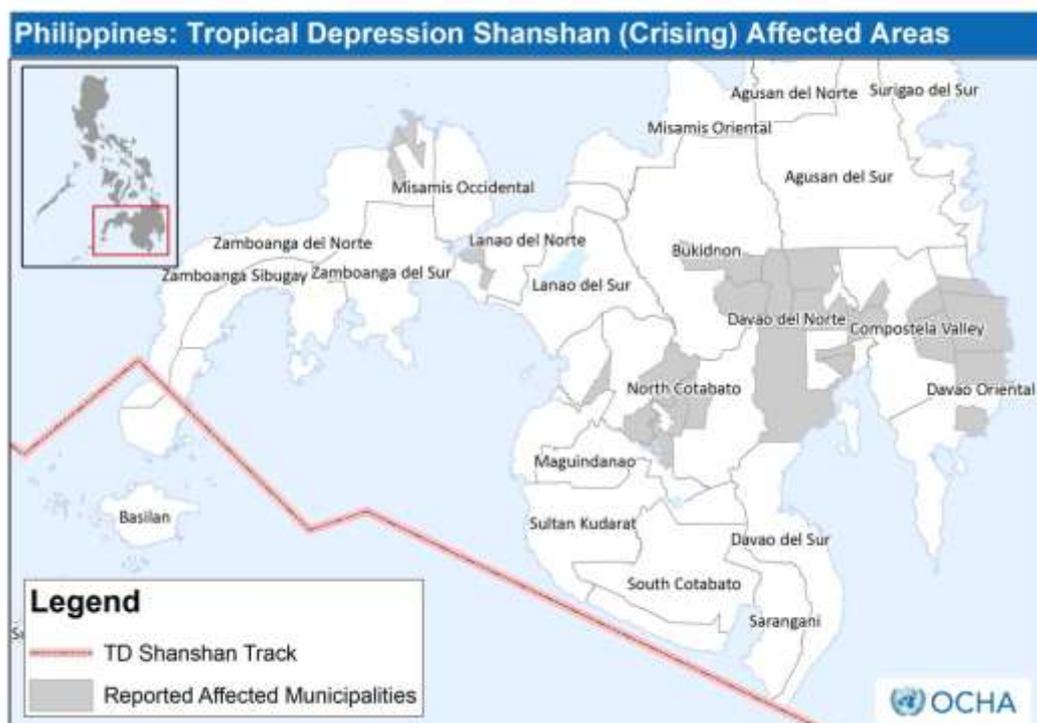
Credit: UNICEF / M. Bhandari
Compostela, Compostela Valley (2 February 2013) – UNICEF in partnership with ACF provides supplementary feeding to malnourished child

Shanshan cause flooding across Mindanao

260,000 people affected including communities recovering from Bopha

According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, Tropical Depression Shanshan, locally known as *Crising*, affected about 51,000 families (260,000 people) across 8 regions of the Philippines including areas still recovering from Bopha. Shanshan hampered relief efforts in the worst-hit municipalities of Davao Oriental. Spontaneous settlements along the highway increased as people affected by Bopha relocated to areas they considered safer. In Caraga region, classes were suspended and humanitarian response activities were delayed in Agusan del Sur province.

In central Mindanao, heavy rains triggered flooding in several areas in North Cotabato



Source: National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council Situation Report 13, 24 February 2013

IDP Bill passed by the Philippine Government

province and 2,000 families (10,000 people) were evacuated to safer areas. Families living near mountain slopes were pre-emptively evacuated in Lake Sebu municipality in the province of South Cotabato while in Datu Montawal municipality, Maguindanao province, an estimated 1,000 families (5,000 people) evacuated along the Cotabato City-Davao highway. The local government units and the Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council-Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao provided relief goods such as food packs to the affected communities. As of 25 February, the water levels started to recede and some of the displaced families are returning home. Shanshan is the third tropical cyclone to enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility this year.

Western Mindanao

Families displaced by clashes between MNLF and ASG returning home

On 3 February, armed clashes between the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) erupted in Patikul municipality, Sulu province and displaced at least 550 families (2,750 people). The MNLF reported that its offensives were an attempt to free all kidnapped hostages by the ASG. Local government officials provided relief assistance to those displaced. By the end of February, most families have returned to their homes as fighting has subsided.

In Brief

Philippines the first in Asia to pass national legislation protecting IDPs

On 6 February, the Philippine Congress passed a bill that seeks to protect the rights of internally displaced people in the country, known as the “Rights of the Internally Displaced Person Act of 2012,” the Bill will become law when it is signed by the President making the Philippines the first country in the Asia-Pacific region to have comprehensive legislation that protects people against arbitrary displacement, and guarantees the rights of the internally displaced in accordance with internal standards, particularly the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. UNHCR sees this bill as a model example for other countries.

The bill seeks to prevent displacement, and also spells out rights during and after displacement. It also imposes heavy penalties against arbitrary displacement of any person, including non-combatants caught in the crossfire of internal armed conflicts.

It also spells out key rights of IDPs during and after displacement, emphasising that displacement should not violate anyone’s rights to life, dignity and security. The bill also importantly provides for monetary compensation for loss of damaged property or for the death of family members. The Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines, an independent agency of the state, has been designated as the focal point for the protection of displaced people.

The text as approved by the Congress is available at:
<http://www.ifrc.org/docs/IDRL/HBN5627%20SBN3317.pdf>

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OCHA humanitarian bulletins are available at <http://philippines.humanitarianresponse.info> | www.unocha.org | www.reliefweb.int