

HIGHLIGHTS

- 8 November marks the one-year commemoration of Typhoon Haiyan that devastated central Philippines in 2013.
- Emergency threshold for severe malnutrition exceeded in Zamboanga.
- Partners support authorities to meet the needs of over 53,000 Mayon Volcano-evacuees.

FIGURES

Typhoon Haiyan

# of people in evacuation centres	320
# of people in tents	4,760
# of people in transitional sites	19,700
Total	24,780

Source: IOM DTM

Zamboanga Crisis

# of people in evacuation centres	11,790
# of people in transitional sites	11,230
# of displaced people staying with relatives or friends	15,190
Total # of people displaced	38,210

Source: Protection Cluster

Mayon Volcano

# of evacuees	53,060
# of evacuation centres	50

Source: Albay Public Safety and Emergency Management Office



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Typhoon Haiyan: One year on

On the road to recovery

On 8 November 2013 Typhoon Haiyan (locally known as Yolanda) devastated the Philippines, affecting over 14 million people, causing more than 6,000 deaths and displacing 4 million people. The government, together with national and international partners, rallied to respond to the humanitarian needs of the affected people. There was a rapid deployment of experienced humanitarians in a system-wide response, where international staff worked alongside their national and government counterparts.

One year on, the Government-led response is focused on recovery and long-term development. Typhoon Haiyan made its first landfall in the municipality of Guiuan, in the far east of the Visayas region. A master tailor in the district, Felimon Sales, was injured during the storm by falling rocks and can no longer work. He worries that he is now unable to provide for his wife and their orphaned two-year old grandchild. His family became dependent on relief goods for survival, and is living in a government-provided bunkhouse.

But the Sales family has recently moved to one of the transitional sites built by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in nearby Barangay San Roque Sapao. Their new home has a ramp to provide Filemon with easy access in his wheelchair, and his wife, Virginia, is making ends meet by planting a vegetable garden.

Filemon's plight is just one story of survival and an illustration that there is still much to be done on the road to recovery for those affected by last year's disaster.

The 25,000 people living in transitional sites still require inter-sectoral assistance, including protection, livelihoods support, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and shelter until durable solutions to their displacement are reached. The government integrates the response to remaining needs into the recovery agenda under the Office of the Presidential Assistant for Rehabilitation and Recovery (OPARR) Social Services Cluster led by the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

In addition, around 95,000 households (475,000 people) are estimated to be living in unsafe or inadequate makeshift shelters, and are considered highly vulnerable because of their limited ability to recover without further assistance, according to a recent assessment by shelter partners. Many of these households were living in poverty before Haiyan. They are considered



Credit: OCHA/Fragkiska Megaloudi
Tacloban City, Eastern Visayas (19 October 2014) – Kiosks fill the streets of central Tacloban, one year after Typhoon Haiyan devastated the city.

The priorities of the recovery process are to restore, rehabilitate or reconstruct damaged infrastructure to sustain economic and social activities in the affected areas, and to repair houses, facilities and services.

communities most at risk because their coping mechanisms have diminished and vulnerabilities have increased further.

The priorities of the recovery process are to restore, rehabilitate or reconstruct damaged infrastructure to sustain economic and social activities in the affected areas, and to repair houses, facilities and services. The response going forward will also seek to restore livelihoods, and to increase resilience and the capacities of communities themselves to cope with future disasters.

UN agencies, international and local non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and civil society organisations (CSOs) are currently working together with the OPARR-led clusters and advocating for permanent housing, long-term sustainable livelihoods, and disaster preparedness and risk reduction. It is important that all actors – the government, NGOs, CSOs, and the private sector – complement each other as the response moves towards full recovery and building community resilience over the years ahead.

Transitional shelters by the bay help rebuild livelihoods

Coastal communities in the city of Tacloban bore the brunt of Typhoon Haiyan, with the storm surge claiming thousands of lives and destroying thousands more homes. A small community in Barangay 88 was among the worst affected. Families who had been living in the neighbourhood for generations found themselves homeless overnight. With the support of international partners, Tacloban is beginning to resettle these families currently living in tents and makeshift shelters to transitional housing in the north of the city.

Tagpuro village in the northern part of the city is one such location. Operation Blessing through All Hands Volunteers and IOM have constructed transitional shelters with local materials for roofing and walls (*nipa* and *amakan*). The site is close to a bay with a good access to fishing and marine livelihoods, the traditional way of life for these displaced people.

The families of Tagpuro are relieved to have moved out of the tents where they had been living since the typhoon devastated their community a year ago. They now enjoy safer and more secure homes but some are struggling to adapt to new work opportunities and are anxiously awaiting government-run livelihoods projects to begin.

Nearly 300 families (1,500 people) have moved to relocation sites like Tagpuro, according to local officials. Around 550 more families currently in tents are scheduled to move by the end of November. A further 200 families living in tents in Tanauan municipality are moving to relocation sites as well.

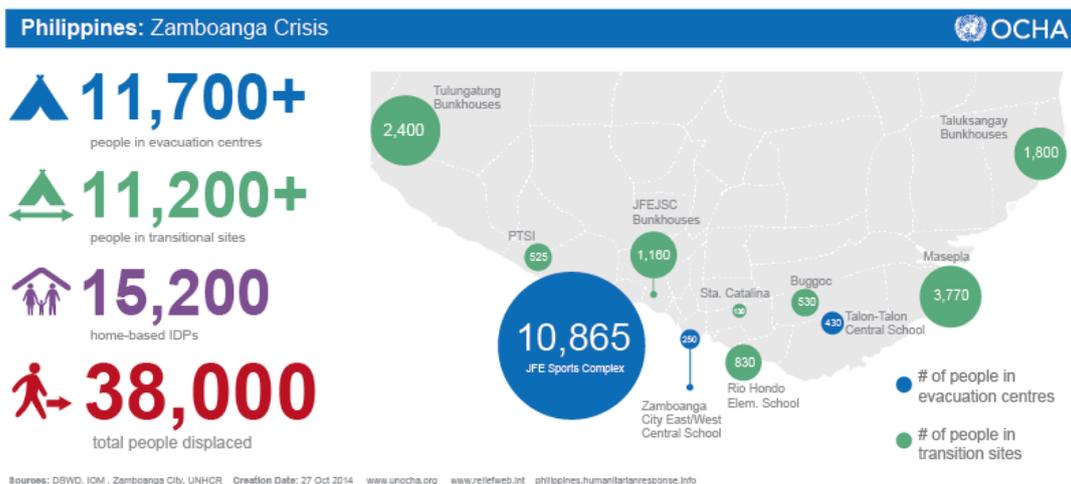


Credit: OCHA/Orla Fagan
Barangay Tagpuro, Talcoban City, Eastern Visayas (September 2014) – Rows of transitional shelters built by the bay help the displaced people resume fishing, their traditional livelihoods.

Renewed efforts in search of durable solutions for Zamboanga's displaced

Partners address humanitarian needs with longer-term support to durable solutions

The Department for Social Welfare and Development formally closed the humanitarian phase of the response to conflict-affected people in Zamboanga in August 2014 and



A timeline of events related to the Zamboanga crisis is available at: <http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/philippines/infographic/zamboanga-crisis-timeline-03-oct-2014>

directed local authorities and humanitarian partners to shift their focus to the delivery of recovery and rehabilitation programmes.

On 1 October, a Public Forum on Durable Solutions for the IDPs of Zamboanga was held in Zamboanga City, supported by the Philippines Commission on Human Rights (CHR), the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC). The Public Forum was followed by a two-day training workshop on Durable Solutions, from 2 to 3 October. Over 40 representatives from local government agencies, NGOs, UN agencies and IDPs themselves participated.

The key outcome of the workshop was an agreement by participants on 12 recommendations which placed particular emphasis on the right of IDPs to a safe return to their places of origin, the protection of vulnerable groups, housing assistance and supporting IDPs to build sustainable livelihoods. At the same time, maintaining access to basic services was also recommended, with a request to the City Government of Zamboanga to immediately address the concern over water and sanitation, health services and education of IDPs still living in evacuation centres, and those who have been transferred to transitional sites.

The need to address ongoing humanitarian issues with longer-term support to durable solutions is a critical balancing act in responding to the complex needs of conflict-affected IDPs in Zamboanga. Following concerns raised last month by humanitarian partners over the quality of humanitarian services in Masepla Transitional Site, the Inter-Cluster Coordination (ICC) team in Zamboanga City has renewed efforts to address the number of shelter structures, as well as WASH facilities, that fall short of Sphere standards – the internationally-agreed minimum standards for the delivery of humanitarian assistance. The ICC team has agreed to halt all movements of IDPs from the Grand Stand Evacuation Centre until improvements have been completed. These challenges have been exacerbated by the fact that Masepla Transitional Site is nearly at full capacity and, whilst new shelters currently being constructed at the site will help to decongest the original bunkhouses that were first installed, there is a need to identify alternative sites in Zamboanga City that can accommodate up to 11,000 IDPs remaining in the Grand Stand. These IDPs are due to be moved in advance of its scheduled closure on 15 December 2014.

...emergency threshold for Severe Acute Malnutrition exceeded among children aged 6 to 59 months in evacuation centres and transitional sites in Zamboanga City.

Emergency threshold for Severe Acute Malnutrition exceeded and Global Malnutrition at a “risky” level

Further concern has been raised this month over the humanitarian situation facing conflict-affected IDPs in Zamboanga with the release of the findings of a Nutrition Cluster survey conducted in 280 households with more than 460 children aged 6 to 59 months displaced across all the Evacuation Centres and Transitional Sites in the city in

August 2014. The survey's findings indicated that the emergency threshold for Severe Acute Malnutrition had been exceeded among children aged 6 to 59 months and Global Acute Malnutrition (Severe and Moderate Acute Malnutrition) is at a risky level, requiring intervention. More than half of children aged 24 months and over were recorded as stunted (a consequence of chronic malnutrition). Infant and young child feeding practices were also found to be sub-optimal. The Nutrition Cluster, led by the City Health Office, is developing a plan of action in response.

Mayon Volcano remains on Alert Level 3

Partners support the authorities to meet the needs of over 53,000 evacuees

A hazardous eruption of the Mayon Volcano is possible within weeks.

The Mayon Volcano in Albay Province remains at alert level 3 on a scale of 5, meaning a hazardous eruption is possible within weeks (level 5 signifies an ongoing hazardous eruption). All monitoring parameters indicate that the volcano is still in a state of unrest. To date, over 53,000 people have evacuated from the 6 to 8 km radius danger zone, and are being provided with assistance in 50 evacuation centres, most of which are schools. The 50 schools located in the danger zone cannot be used, compounding the challenges for many children to continue their education.

The national and local authorities continue to provide assistance, including food, water, non-food items and medicines in evacuation centres. 300 temporary classrooms have been setup and thousands of displaced students received schooling materials. Cash-for-work programmes provide financial support to families who are now well into their second month of displacement.

CSOs, particularly through the Caucus of Development networks of Non-Government Organizations and the Social Action Center, are actively supporting the Mayon response by conducting needs assessments and addressing the health needs of the evacuees. The World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Vision and partners from the private sector are providing assistance such as food and WASH services. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is supporting the Albay authorities with coordination and information management.



Credit: OCHA/Gil Francis G. Arevalo
Legazpi City, Albay Province (17 October 2014) – Despite day-to-day difficulties at the evacuation centre, children join classes in a temporary learning space in Camalig Central School.

International fora debate humanitarian response effectiveness and displacement

Global Disaster Response Dialogue Conference

On 13 and 14 October, the Government of the Philippines hosted the Global Disaster Response Dialogue (DRD) Conference in Manila focusing on the theme “improving trust and cooperation for more effective humanitarian responses.” It was recognised that national, regional and international stakeholders are collectively responsible for enhancing preparedness and relationships before a crisis, and response efforts should always be complementary to established national systems. A set of recommendations were developed: the need for governments to incorporate protocols in national disaster preparedness plans to inform analysis on requirements and management of international support; international disaster response and coordination systems must be contextualised

and tailored to the systems of the affected state; and for the implementation of Good Humanitarian Donorship principles. For more information, visit: www.drinitiative.org/.

The Nansen Initiative Regional Consultation for Southeast Asia

The Nansen Initiative – a global process of consensus-building around protection for people displaced across borders through natural hazards, including climate change – held a regional consultation for Southeast Asia in Manila on 15 to 17 October. The workshop was part of a global process of consultations which will culminate in a conference in Geneva in 2015. The initiative aims to bridge a policy gap around disaster and climate change-induced cross-border displacement.

The four-day event produced an outcome document which highlights six areas in which action is needed in the region: disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, planned relocation, internal and cross-border displacement in the context of disasters and the adverse effects of climate change, protecting migrants abroad in disaster contexts, and data collection and scientific knowledge. Documents related to the Consultation are available at: <http://nanseninitiative.org/southeast-asia-regional-consultation>.

The Nansen Initiative is a state-led, bottom-up consultative process to address the needs of people displaced across borders in the context of sudden and slow-onset disasters and the effects of climate change.

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