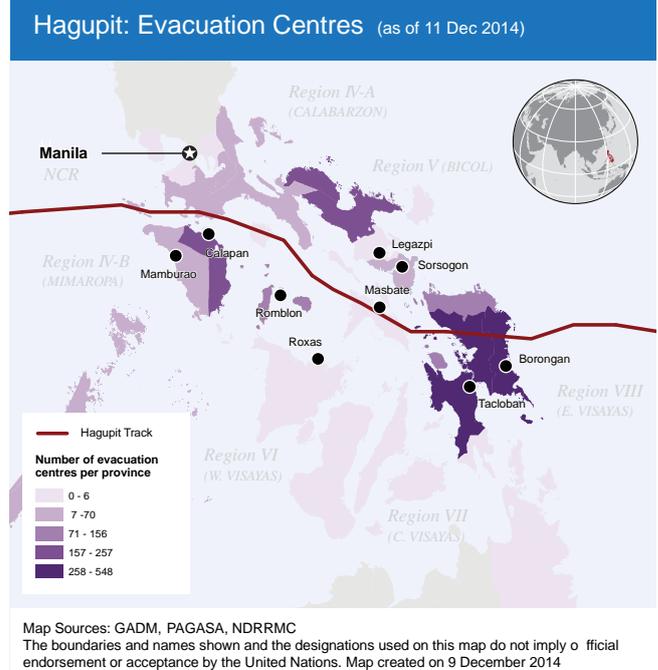




This report is produced by OCHA Philippines in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by OCHA Philippines. It covers the period from 9 to 11 December 2014. The next report will be issued on or around 15 December.

## Highlights

- More than half of the evacuees returns home as Hagupit exits the Philippines and flooding recede.
- 788,500 people remain in 3,000 evacuation centres. Of the total evacuees, three quarters are in Region VIII, central Philippines.
- Initial assessments reveal that emergency shelter, food, water, sanitation and hygiene, health and logistics are a priority.
- The Government plans to release the comprehensive assessment result shortly and hold a coordination meeting with humanitarian partners next week.



<b>2.9 million</b> affected people	<b>788,500</b> people in evacuation centres	<b>3,003</b> evacuation centres	<b>8,700</b> totally damaged houses	<b>39,100</b> partially damaged houses	<b>19</b> reported deaths
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Source: NDRRMC Sitrep No. 17, 11 December 2014, 6 p.m.

## Situation Overview

Tropical Depression Hagupit (locally known as Ruby) exited the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) in the evening of 10 December, seven days since its entry, according to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA). While assessments continue, the damage appears to be caused primarily by rain and focused in areas where the typhoon struck at its strongest - Northern Samar, Eastern Samar and Samar provinces in Region VIII.

Initial assessments reveal that immediate needs are most acute in Eastern Samar. In these areas, the authorities at the local and national levels are engaging humanitarian organizations with an existing presence in Region VIII or a long-term presence in the country to complement government's relief efforts in priority sectors. While pockets of humanitarian needs exist in other areas affected by the typhoon, these are within the capacity of the government to respond.

The typhoon affected about 2.9 million people (694,300 families) in nine regions (Metro Manila, III, IV-A, IV-B, V, VI, VII, VIII and Caraga) according to the Natural Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC). The official death toll rose to 19 (including at least four boys and three girls) and 916 people injured.

As flooding recede, more than half of the evacuees returned home in the past two days. Now some 788,500 people (170,700 families) are staying in 3,003 evacuation centres. Of the evacuees, 76 per cent are in Region VIII. At the height of the evacuation on 9 December, 1.7 million people were in 5,193 evacuation centres. Those with damaged or flooded homes will remain longer.

[+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report](#)

The authorities supported by humanitarian partners continue to assess damages and needs while focusing response efforts in the provinces of Northern Samar, Eastern Samar and Samar. Initial assessments indicate that 8,700 houses were totally destroyed and 39,100 partially damaged across the affected regions. These figures are expected to rise as additional information become available, particularly in Eastern Samar. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) with support of humanitarian organizations aims to provide emergency shelter assistance to the affected communities up to the end of January 2015.

Besides emergency shelter, the Government identified food and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health and logistics as priority needs. DSWD is mobilizing additional food packs through the coordination hub in Borongan and will conduct a blanket food distribution targeting all 95,417 families (428,900 people) in Eastern Samar. Humanitarian partners are assisting local authorities with the distribution of food, water and hygiene kits; information management; camp coordination and camp management at evacuation centres; and logistics. The Government also accepted in-kind contribution of food and non-food items from foreign governments including Australia, Japan and the United States.

All national roads are now passable, while six bridges in regions II and V remain impassable. Power outages continued in 12 provinces. Telecommunication coverage was restored in over 74 per cent of the affected areas.

Meanwhile, PAGASA is closely monitoring the low pressure area developing in the east of Mindanao. The possibility of this strengthening into a significant storm is low at this stage. The national weather bureau forecasts two more tropical cyclones to affect the Philippines by the end of the year. An average of 21 or 22 tropical cyclones enter the PAR annually.

## Humanitarian Response



### Camp Coordination and Camp Management

#### Needs:

- An estimated 788,500 people (170,700 families) in 3,003 evacuation centres need camp coordination and camp management support including registration, vulnerability and sectoral assessment using the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) tool.
- Support to repair damaged temporary shelters and facilities in displacement sites (including bunkhouses) will be needed.

#### Response:

- 5,000 tarpaulins, 5,000 hygiene kits, 10,000 aquatabs (water purification tablets) and 2,000 jerry cans were distributed in Eastern Samar province evacuation centres.
- The DTM was rolled out to assess priority needs and conditions of people in the evacuation centres.
- Repair of damaged temporary shelters and facilities continues in displacement sites (bunkhouses).

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- Some areas remain flooded and may prolong the duration of the evacuation. Local authorities' camp management capacity may be stretched.



### Education

#### Needs:

- Schooling was disrupted for about 1.1 million students according to estimates by the Department of Education.
- Damaged schools require temporary learning spaces and classroom repairs. In Region VIII, 27 tents and 500 tarpaulins are needed for temporary learning spaces. The total requirements are still being validated.

#### Response:

- Education supplies and learning materials were pre-positioned for delivery to affected schools.

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- Validated data of education needs still not available.



## Emergency Shelter

### Needs:

- Current assessments suggest that approximately 47,781 houses damaged by Typhoon Hagupit (8,694 destroyed and 39,087 partially damaged).
- Rapid assessment data is still being verified by local officials. Indications show that the majority of damage was in Eastern Samar particularly with light material homes (nipa or bamboo materials).

### Response:

- Partners have started distributing emergency shelter and non-food item kits in the affected areas.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- Current in-country stock of emergency shelter materials is insufficient. Replenishment is urgently needed with the ongoing typhoon season.
- Although shelter agencies have emergency stock levels in country, support will be required for the early recovery phase in respect of transitional and core shelters.



## Food Security

### Needs:

- Total damages and production losses in crops and infrastructure is estimated at 1.3 billion pesos (\$28 million), according to the preliminary reports of the Department of Agriculture.
- A total of 600 metric tons (mt) of rice and 100 mt of high energy biscuits (HEBs) are needed to complement the Government's food assistance package.

### Response:

- Out of the total requirement to complement the food assistance package, 100 mt of rice and 30 mt of HEBs were delivered to Tacloban and Borongan. An additional 200 mt of rice and 20 mt of HEBs are being transported to Eastern Visayas. The HEBs will reach about 300,000 people in 17 municipalities in Eastern Samar.
- Additional food commodities are pre-positioned at strategic warehouses in Manila, Cebu and Cotabato ready to be deployed as needed.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- Incomplete assessment of agricultural damage is constraining response planning and prioritisation.



## Health

### Needs:

- A total of 6 hospitals, 21 rural health units (2 non-functional in Gandara and Villareal, Western Samar) and 24 barangay health stations (5 non-functional in Putting Bato, Masbate; San Joaquin in Capoocan, Leyte; Balud, Eastern Samar; Aguda, Quezon; and Salhag, Northern Samar ) were damaged.
- In Eastern Samar, 10,012 pregnant women and 8,582 lactating mothers need targeted reproductive health services.
- Cold chain integrity is disrupted in areas affected by power outages.

### Response:

- Health outposts were established in large evacuation centres.
- Mobile health services were deployed (including reproductive health, psychosocial support, minor surgical consultations and health promotion).
- Health Cluster partners are supporting information management, response coordination, medicines, supplies and equipment, human resource augmentation, transport of emergency supplies and disease surveillance.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- Access constraints and telecommunication disruptions continue to impede the flow of information and delivery of health services.



## Nutrition

**Needs:**

- Assessments and activities to protect and promote breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices are a priority.

**Response:**

- Public information products were developed promoting Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) and released on 11 December to ensure the nutritional status of vulnerable children and women affected by the typhoon do not deteriorate.
- Local radios broadcast nutrition messages daily to over 1.4 million people in the affected areas.
- IYCF counselors were deployed to evacuation centres; group counseling sessions are conducted in mother-baby-friendly spaces and health centres in affected communities.
- Contingency stocks of micronutrient supplements and other nutrition supplies were pre-positioned.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- Detailed information on vulnerable groups from worst-hit areas is still not available.
- Communication remains a constraint in the hardest-hit areas in Region VIII.



## Protection

**Needs:**

- The immediate child protection needs are not yet clear but anecdotal evidence from regions VI and VIII suggest that psychosocial support for children may be required. Children expressed both fear and anxiety at the onset of the typhoon.
- Power outages and common toilets pose protection risks for women and girls in the evacuation centres. Solar lanterns are needed.

**Response:**

- Materials for child protection in emergencies (psychosocial support and referral information for separated or unaccompanied minors) in the local language were distributed to families and caregivers in evacuation centres in regions VI and VIII.
- Partners are ready to help establish women-friendly spaces and gender-based violence watch groups.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- Sex and age disaggregated data including vulnerable groups is not yet available constraining targeted response.



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

**Needs:**

- Up to 171,000 people in Eastern Samar may require WASH assistance according to the Provincial Health Office.
- Water systems in some towns and cities are not fully functional due to power outages risking outbreaks of water-borne diseases. Portable Microbiological Laboratory is needed for rapid water quality monitoring.

**Response:**

- 7,000 families (35,000 people) were provided with hygiene kits and 3,500 families (17,500 people) with water kits in Eastern Samar and Masbate provinces.
- Water quality tests are being conducted in eight municipalities in Eastern Samar.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- Supply of water and hygiene kits in Eastern Samar is insufficient; additional supplies for 35,000 families are required.

## General Coordination

Preliminary results of the government-led Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment are expected on 12 December. The Government plans to convene a response clusters meeting in Manila next week to discuss those results with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the broader humanitarian community.

Organizations already in the country are requested to coordinate with the Government's response mechanisms, either locally or nationally, while externally placed resources should only be mobilized upon specific request by the Government.

The HCT held a partners briefing on 11 December to share updates and coordinate further assistance to the Government. Humanitarian partners conducting needs assessments in the affected areas and providing bilateral assistance to the authorities are requested to continue sharing updates with respective regional Office of Civil Defense and OCHA ([sanjeewa@un.org](mailto:sanjeewa@un.org) for Region VIII and [addawe@un.org](mailto:addawe@un.org) for other areas).

A daily Joint Response Cluster Coordination meeting is held between the Government and the humanitarian community in Borongan City. General briefings for humanitarian partners are also held daily at 6 p.m. at the Boro Bay Hotel.

### Background on the crisis

Typhoon Hagupit (known locally as Ruby) made its first landfall in the evening of 6 December 2014 in Dolores municipality, Eastern Samar province, as a Category 2 typhoon with maximum sustained winds of 175 km/h and gusts of up to 210 km/h. Hagupit made subsequent landfalls in the provinces of Masbate, Marinduque, Batangas and Lubang, as it weakened into a tropical depression. The Government of the Philippines is leading the humanitarian response and has established an Operational Command Center in Borongan to coordinate response and supply hubs in Borongan and Catarman. Before the typhoon made landfall, over 700,000 people were pre-emptively evacuated along the projected track. The Humanitarian Country Team is providing targeted assistance in the worst-affected areas with in-country resources to complement the Government's relief efforts.

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For more information, please visit [www.unocha.org](http://www.unocha.org) [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int) <http://philippines.humanitarianresponse.info>

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