



This report is produced by OCHA Regional Office for the Pacific in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by OCHA Regional Office for the Pacific. It covers the period from 3 December 2012 to 5 December 2012. The next report will be issued on or around 7 December 2012.

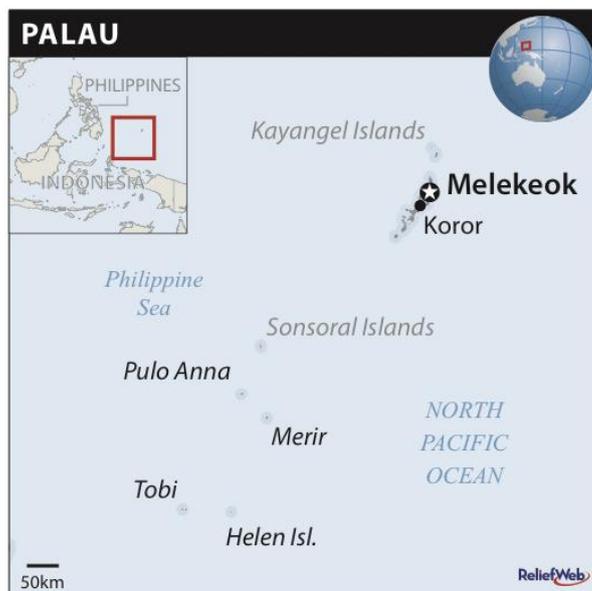
## Highlights

- A State of Emergency has been declared.
- Congress has been asked to appropriate US\$10 million for response and recovery efforts.
- Current priorities are shelter, water, sanitation and power.
- 92 houses have been completely destroyed and 59 houses have major damages. Initial Damage Assessments are continuing, with results still pending.
- No casualties or major injuries have been reported.
- The hospital and clinics will resume normal operations as of today.
- A Recovery Task Force has been established.

**92 houses**  
completely destroyed

**59 houses**  
with major damages

**US\$10 million**  
appropriated for response and recovery



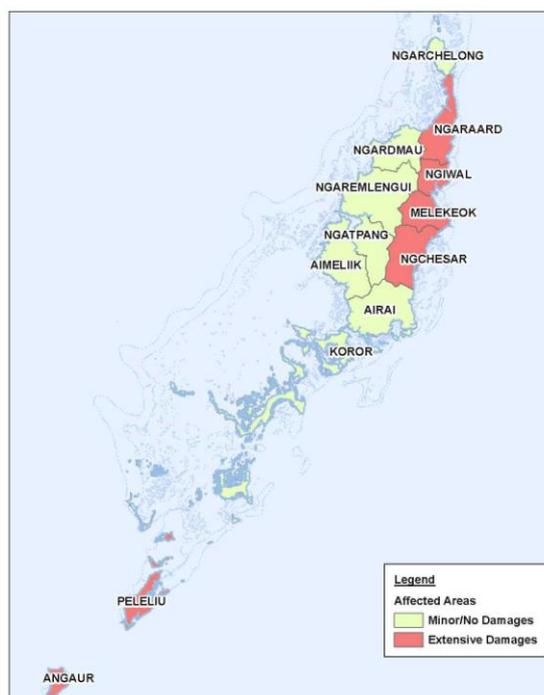
Map Sources: ESRI, Europa Technologies, Gov't. of USA, UNCS.  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created Jun 2010 – www.reliefweb.int

## Situation Overview

Areas with extensive damages include Angaur, Peleliu, Ngchesar, Melekeok, Ngiwlai, and Ngaard States.

Areas with minor or no damages include Aimeliik, Airai, Koror, Ngerchelong, Ngeremlengui, Kayangel, Sonsorol, Hatohobei and Ngatpang States.

In light of the destruction inflicted on Palau by Typhoon Bopha, the President has declared a State of Emergency. In his Declaration of a State of Emergency he outlined that Typhoon Bopha completely destroyed residences and significantly damaged others, causing scores of people to be rendered homeless for the foreseeable future. Schools and other public buildings and infrastructure throughout Palau were similarly destroyed or damaged. In some areas the storm surge pushed ocean water several hundred feet inland cutting and destroying some roads and covering others with several feet of debris. Crops were damaged and destroyed. Power lines throughout Palau were cut or knocked down. Electrical power some areas of the east coast remains disrupted and the water and sewerage service has been knocked out or disrupted and will remain so until early next week.



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

President Johnson Toribiong has requested that the Palau Congress appropriate US\$10 million for relief and recovery efforts. A Recovery Task Force has been established, led by Dr Patrick Tellei, President of the Palau Community College (PCC). The recovery theme will be “Recovery by repairing and restoring public infrastructure for people to rebuild their lives.”

As yet, detailed assessments by specific sectors has not been conducted and the results from some of the Initial Damage Assessment Reports (IDAs) are still pending. The IDA’s will be used by the Recovery Task Force as a basis for setting recovery priorities.



Debris and fallen trees in between houses.  
Credit: National Emergency Management Office

## Humanitarian Response



### Shelter

#### Needs:

- Approximately 300 people from Ngiwal and Melekeok remain in temporary shelters.
- The National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) conducted an IDA of 420 residences in six affected states. Initial results indicate that 90 houses were completely destroyed and 59 houses suffered major damage. 120 houses suffered minor to no significant damages.
- A detailed IDA from Airai State is still being finalized, however initial reports indicate that two houses were completely destroyed.
- In addition, IDAs from Koro and Ngarchelong States are still pending.

**92 houses**  
completely destroyed

#### Response:

- The Recovery Task Force identified has a priority the relocation of those still in temporary shelters.
- The Recovery Task Force has requested that the private sector submit tenders for the construction of a standard two room house that can be built.
- At the National Disaster Committee meeting yesterday it was recommended that the Government develop a strategy to assist those people that have lost their homes, including provisions for temporary shelter, food relief, water supply, non-food relief and reconstruction of permanent housing.
- The Palau Red Cross has distributed tools to traditional Chiefs in Ngaraard, Ngiwal and Melekeok to assist in the repairing of damaged houses.
- The Palau Red Cross has dispersed supplies (tarps etc.) to damaged houses.
- The Palau Red Cross has requested that volunteers come forward to assist in the clean up and reconstruction of temporary shelters.



Damage to residential homes.  
Credit: National Emergency Management Office

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- Further information on Evacuation Centers and the needs of those displaced is required.
- There is a shortage of plywood etc. The Palau Red Cross has requested donations of wood and other supplies to assist with the building of temporary shelters.



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

### Needs:

- There is damage to the Melekeok Sewerage Station causing significant disruptions.

### Response:

- The Recovery Task Force is repairing sewerage lines in Melekeok as a priority. Repairs are underway to repair the Melekeok Sewerage Station so that it is fully functional by Monday.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- Access to water in the affected states in the east needs further assessment.



## Education

### Needs:

- Two schools in Ngaraard State have suffered severe damages: Bethania High School and Ngaraard Elementary School.

**2 schools**  
suffered severe damages

### Response:

- Students from Bethania High School will be accommodated at Emmaus High School from Monday.
- Students from Ngaraard Elementary School will be accommodated at Ngarchelong Elementary School from Monday.
- Arrangements have been made to provide transport for affected students to new school locations.



## Health

### Needs:

- There are no reported casualties or cases of severe trauma as a result of Typhoon Bopha.
- Palau Red Cross remains concerned about the potential health impact from disease.

### Response:

- MoH has indicated that the hospital and clinics will be fully operational as of today.
- MoH is deploying social workers and environmental teams to assess the worst hit areas.
- Palau Red Cross will use their resources to support MoH.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- MoH has indicated that they may request support with a 'Needs Assessment' of current procedures so that they are better prepared for future emergencies especially in the areas of capacity, internal and external communication and organization.



## Early Recovery

### Response:

- A Recovery Taskforce, led by Dr Patrick Tellei, President of the Palau Community College, has been established to coordinate recovery efforts.

## General Coordination

The Recovery Task Force now established is taking the lead on coordination, response and recovery efforts. Meetings scheduled today by the Palau Red Cross and Recovery Task Force will aim to ensure that the short and long term needs are adequately addressed with a clear division of labor between response and recovery actors.

The OCHA Regional Office for the Pacific, International Federation for the Red Cross and the United Nations Develop Program continues to support response efforts in country.

The United States Embassy has committed US\$100,000 to the Palau Red Cross for relief efforts. The Palau Red Cross plans to use the funds to assist people with basic needs.

In addition, the Republic of China (Taiwan), the Asian Development Bank and Bank of Guam have offered support. Dr Patrick Rellei, the Recovery Coordination will respond to offers of international support.

### Background on the crisis

Typhoon Bopha passed to the south of the larger islands in the Palau archipelago in the early morning of Monday, 3 December 2012 with winds of up to 250 km per hour.

Between 27 November and 2 December, the National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) issued more than 10 detailed Public Announcements warning residents of Typhoon Bopha's approach. The Palau Government facilitated the opening of 45 Evacuation Centers where many families sought refuge. NEMO declared a 'Condition 1' on Sunday afternoon with restrictions being put on movement as the typhoon conditions intensified. NEMO has since declared 'Condition 4' allowing residents to return to normal conditions and return to their homes.

Electricity in Koror was switched off on Sunday in preparation and has since been switched back on with electricity, internet and mobile and landline services restored.

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