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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Philippines – Tropical Storms

Fact Sheet #7, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

October 22, 2009

Note: The last fact sheet was dated October 16, 2009.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- According to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GoRP) National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC), Tropical Storm Ketsana (Ondoy) and Typhoon Parma (Pepeng) have affected nearly 8.8 million people, leaving 902 people dead, more than 207,000 people displaced in shelters, and more than 210,000 houses damaged or destroyed as of October 22.
- A third Pacific typhoon is approaching northern Luzon island, but is not forecast to make landfall. As of October 22 at 1100 hours Eastern Daylight Time, the center of Typhoon Lupit (Ramil) was located approximately 345 miles north-northeast of Manila, according to the U.S. Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC). According to the JTWC forecast, the typhoon will weaken while moving over open water north of Luzon island and dissipate by October 27. According to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration, northern and central Luzon will experience rains and occasional gusty winds with moderate to rough seas on October 22, but rainfall is forecast to decrease through the weekend.
- U.N. World Food Program (WFP) Executive Director Josette Sheeran arrived in the Philippines on October 21 to meet with GoRP officials, visit affected areas, and monitor the provision of food assistance during a three-day visit. Additionally, Noeleen Heyzer, U.N. Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, traveled to the Philippines to meet with President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on October 22 to discuss the aftermath of recent storms, as well as the region's response to the global economic downturn.
- On October 19, the NDCC requested that the U.N. include areas affected by Typhoon Parma in the upcoming revision of the U.N. flash appeal for the Philippines. On October 6, the U.N. issued a flash appeal requesting more than \$74 million to assist 1 million flood-affected individuals in the Manila area with food, health, shelter, camp coordination and camp management, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
Total Affected Population	8,777,510	NDCC - October 22, 2009
Dead	902	NDCC - October 22, 2009
Injured	711	NDCC - October 22, 2009
Missing	87	NDCC - October 22, 2009
Evacuated or Displaced	207,362	NDCC - October 22, 2009
Infrastructure Damage	210,242 houses, as well as roads, bridges, schools, and agricultural land	NDCC - October 22, 2009

FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance for Philippines Tropical Storms.....\$2,859,450¹
DoD² Assistance for Philippines Tropical Storms.....\$827,581
Total USAID and DoD Humanitarian Assistance for Philippines Tropical Storms.....\$3,687,031

CURRENT SITUATION

- As of October 20, the GoRP Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) had begun pre-positioning approximately 126 metric tons (MT) of relief commodities and food items in regions I, II, and the Cordeillera Administrative Region (CAR) in northern Luzon. The GoRP Department of Health (DoH) had delivered medicines, medical supplies, and a cash allocation to those regions to mitigate the potential effects of Lupit.

¹ This amount represents the portion of USAID/OFDA's FY 2010 allocation of \$3.8 million that has been awarded to date and funds for a USAID/OFDA airlift of emergency commodities and administrative costs. The remaining funds will be awarded based on ongoing assessments. This amount does not include \$404,496 in USAID/OFDA FY 2009 funding provided in assistance for Philippines tropical storms.

² U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

- During the week of October 19, two WFP helicopters operational in the Philippines supported DSWD, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) in transporting relief commodities to pre-positioned stockpiles.
- The GoRP has announced the possibility of pre-emptive evacuations in regions I, II, and CAR and has identified evacuation centers to accommodate potential evacuees.
- DSWD has begun implementation of the *Balik Probinsya* program, providing transportation assistance and subsistence allowances to assist individuals returning to areas of origin or resettling to areas of choice. DSWD has also started a cash-for-work intervention to provide temporary employment, including canal dredging, public facility rehabilitation, and waste removal in evacuation centers and affected communities.
- A U.N. Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team departed the Philippines on October 16 after completing a 15-day mission comprising 39 rapid needs assessments and monitoring missions with GoRP and Inter-Agency Standing Committee partners. Findings included the continued need for provision of water containers, hygiene kits, hygiene promotion, and disease surveillance in severely affected areas, such as Pangasinan Province in northern Luzon.
- On October 21, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) decided to dispatch a second UNDAC team to the Philippines in response to an NDCC request, for potential rapid assessments and support in the event of significant Typhoon Lupit impact.

WASH

- According to OCHA, access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities and provision of hygiene items in relocation sites and flood-affected communities represent humanitarian priorities in affected areas. OCHA also listed solid waste collection, vector control, and rehabilitation and improvement of drainage systems as significant concerns.
- Humanitarian organizations have noted that high water levels continue to impede access, drainage, and cleanup in parts of Manila and surrounding provinces. The standing floodwater is contributing to the spread of leptospirosis—a rare, contagious bacterial infection—and other diseases, according to aid agencies.
- Médecins Sans Frontières is currently building latrines for evacuation centers in San Pedro municipality, Laguna Province, to provide additional sanitation facilities. The Philippines National Red Cross (PNRC) is conducting hygiene promotion trainings and distributing hygiene items and drinking water purification materials in Laguna and Rizal provinces.

Health

- WHO has defined the number of new cases of leptospirosis in the weeks following Ketsana as an epidemic. As of October 21, reports from DoH hospitals and preliminary data from private hospitals show 1,887 admissions for leptospirosis and 138 deaths in the National Capital Region (NCR) since the tropical storm. The GoRP National Epidemiology Center (NEC) reported 1.7 million people in affected areas at high-risk exposure.
- The DoH and local government units have developed a strategy for leptospirosis prevention, control, and treatment. As of October 20, DoH had distributed leptospirosis prophylaxis to 4,811 people in NCR and Rizal Province. A number of private hospitals have agreed to waive fees for leptospirosis admissions, in accordance with a DoH request.
- DoH medical, psychosocial, WASH, and nutrition services had reached 73,098 affected individuals in NCR and regions III and IV-A as of October 22, according to the NDCC. From September 27 to October 20, DoH mobile missions deployed 208 medical, 65 public health, 37 WASH, 32 psychosocial, 14 assessment, 7 international, 5 nutrition, and 4 disease surveillance teams to 496 sites to provide health services to affected populations.

Agriculture and Food Security

- The GoRP Department of Agriculture (DoA) estimates production losses following Tropical Storm Ketsana and Typhoon Parma at more than \$491 million and damage to agricultural infrastructure at nearly \$578 million as of October 15, with a total of 614,118 hectares of agricultural land affected.
- The DoA has commenced an inventory of available seeds and pre-positioning of agricultural inputs, including seeds, fertilizer, tools, and fishing equipment.

Food Security and Emergency Food Assistance

- Due to flooding from rains and dam releases following Typhoon Parma, the U.N. Food Cluster expanded the initial distribution of 4,800 MT of locally purchased rice to regions I, II, V, and CAR, north and eastern Luzon, in addition to initial plans to distribute to Ketsana-affected populations in regions III and IV-A.
- WFP projections as of October 20 indicate that the emergency food operation will likely extend to March 2010. WFP is revising the budget to reflect increased needs by expanding assistance to include Parma-affected individuals.

- WFP and GoRP partners have pre-positioned 50 MT of high-energy biscuits (HEBs) in Region I for potential use by families vulnerable to the effects of Typhoon Lupit. WFP expects a shipment of an additional 100 MT of HEBs on October 24.

Shelter and Settlements

- The U.N. Shelter Cluster expects the total number of damaged or destroyed houses to increase to approximately 250,000 once accessibility to difficult-to-reach areas improves and municipalities complete data collection and reporting.
- On October 20, OCHA reported that an estimated 120,000 families continue to reside in houses that remain submerged in water.
- Following the U.N. Shelter Cluster's release of an October 15 to 31 initial strategy that identifies priority target populations, a technical working group has recommended three types of shelter support—repair kit, shelter kit, and transitional shelter kit—and minimum shelter standards.
- As of October 20, eight organizations had volunteered to support shelter activities addressing shelter needs of approximately 40,000 households. However, OCHA reported a potential need for additional partners to provide shelter support to a larger population.

U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On September 28, U.S. Ambassador Kristie A. Kenney issued a disaster declaration due to the effects of Tropical Storm Ketsana. In response, USAID/OFDA provided an immediate \$100,000 through USAID/Philippines to PNRC for the local purchase and delivery of emergency relief supplies. Funding also supported cleanup efforts focused in the Manila metropolitan area.
- On October 8, USAID/OFDA increased its allocation to \$3.8 million for emergency grants to humanitarian organizations. To date in FY 2010, USAID/OFDA has provided or planned provision of nearly \$2.86 million to assist individuals affected by tropical storms in the Philippines. The assistance includes the procurement, transport, and distribution of emergency relief commodities, funding for WASH programs, and non-grant funding for airlifts of relief items and administrative costs. USAID/OFDA will program the remaining allocation of more than \$1.3 million based on ongoing assessments.
- On October 2 and 13, in coordination with the U.S. Embassy in Manila and GoRP authorities, two USAID/OFDA charter flights delivered emergency relief items, including 340 rolls of plastic sheeting for temporary shelter, 50,060 bars of soap, 23,424 hygiene kits, and 23,734 10-liter collapsible water containers. PNRC received the commodities from the October 2 flight for delivery to 20,000 flood-affected individuals, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) received the October 13 items for issuance to approximately 24,000 families.
- A USAID/OFDA regional advisor deployed to the Philippines from September 29 to October 14 to assess flood impacts and facilitate USG assistance, in coordination with the U.S. Embassy in Manila and USAID/Philippines. A USAID/OFDA field officer and WASH advisor remain in-country.
- In the early stages of the disaster response, DoD Pacific Command provided equipment, transport, and logistics support, including 10 helicopters and 6 Zodiac boats for search and rescue efforts, to aid storm-affected individuals.
- From October 2 to 13, DoD assistance included a delivery flight of emergency relief supplies to Batanes Province, northern Philippines, and transport of food and relief supplies to affected areas by road and helicopter. DoD medical teams screened 8,850 medical patients and 357 dental patients; DoD flights transported 262 passengers and moved 114,880 pounds of cargo; and DoD engineers conducted 12 assessments, removed 1,385 cubic meters of debris, and cleared 2,650 meters of road.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR PHILIPPINES TROPICAL STORMS

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE³			
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	Emergency Relief Supplies, Logistics and Transportation	Metro Manila and Laguna Province	\$395,014
American Red Cross Society (AmRC)	Emergency Relief Supplies, Logistics and Transportation	Metro Manila; Rizal, Laguna, and Zambales provinces; Marikina, Taguig, and Quezon cities	\$500,000
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Emergency Relief Supplies, Logistics and Transportation	Bulacan and Rizal provinces	\$248,081

IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Affected Areas	\$150,000
Save the Children/US (SC/US)	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Caloocan, Muntinlupa, Laguna, and Taguig cities	\$300,000
Samaritan's Purse	Emergency Relief Supplies, Logistics and Transportation	Laguna Province	\$222,953
USAID/OFDA Airlift	Emergency Relief Supplies, Logistics and Transportation	Laguna and Pangasinan provinces; Muntinlupa city	\$361,931
WFP	Emergency Relief Supplies, Logistics and Transportation	Affected Areas	\$500,000
World Vision/US	Emergency Relief Supplies, Logistics and Transportation	Affected Areas	\$175,947
	Administrative Cost	Affected Areas	\$5,524
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$2,859,450
DOD			
DoD	Emergency Relief Supplies, Logistics and Transportation	Affected Areas	\$827,581
TOTAL DOD			\$827,581
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE PHILIPPINES IN FY 2010			\$3,687,031

³USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of October 22, 2009.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in the Philippines is available at www.reliefweb.int.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int