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**Emergency Assistance to Typhoon Usagi-Affected Populations  
in Central Luzon**



**Final Performance Report  
Agreement No AID-492-G-13-00003  
(24 September 2013 to 24 November 2013)**

**Prepared for:**  
**U.S. Agency for International Development**  
Manila, Philippines

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## PROJECT SUMMARY

Typhoon *Usagi* (known locally as “*Odette*”) brought heavy rains, waist-deep flooding, and several landslide incidents in Central Luzon. Olongapo City in Zambales and several areas of neighboring Bataan Province, including Dinalupihan town, experienced severe flooding with major roadways rendered impassable. Within these hard-hit areas, approximately 277,020 individuals, in 42 barangays, have been affected.<sup>1</sup> Because of the flooding, there were 324 reported cases of *leptospirosis*<sup>2</sup> in Olongapo City. Of these cases, nine (9) persons eventually died.

Given the disruption to normal water sources and systems, the Philippine Red Cross identified water supply and sanitation as major concerns among affected populations during and just after flooding. In response to these needs, Plan International implemented the project on water, sanitation, and hygiene through the provision of hygiene kits and water purification supplies (Hyposol). With support from USAID/OFDA, the project aimed to provide relief to storm-affected residents and contribute in reducing potential disease outbreaks, maintain health and personal hygiene among family members and to have a sense of dignity under difficult circumstances.

## SUMMARY OF RESULTS

This two-month project addressed the emergency WASH and Hygiene needs among displaced and other storm-affected residents drawn from the hard-hit areas of Olongapo, Zambales Province and Danilupihan Municipality, Bataan Province, Central Luzon (Region III) of the Philippines. A total of 22,425 beneficiaries that comprise the 4,005 households benefitted from the distribution of 4,000 of non-food items (NFIs) which include hygiene kits and water kits with water purification solution (Hyposol). The beneficiaries were also oriented on the importance of proper water treatment, storage of water in the container, disposal of human wastes and proper hygiene practices.

## RESULTS BY OBJECTIVE

**Sector: Logistics Support, Relief Commodities**

**Sub-sector: Non-Food Items**

**Objective 1:** To provide essential NFIs to affected populations

Beneficiaries by objective	Target	Overall Target Achieved
Number of beneficiaries by objective	20,000	22,425
Number of internally displaced persons reached	TBC	300

Performance against indicators	Target	Overall Target Achieved	% of Target Achieved
Total number and per unit cost of NFIs distributed by type	4,000 (\$35.46 per HH)	4,000	100.0%

<sup>1</sup> Zambales information based on published statistics and estimates of Philippine Red Cross, Olongapo Chapter.

<sup>2</sup> The infection is commonly transmitted to humans by allowing water that has been contaminated by animal urine to come in contact with unhealed breaks in the skin, the eyes, or with the mucous membranes

Performance against indicators	Target	Overall Target Achieved	% of Target Achieved
Total number and per item USD value of cash/vouchers distributed for NFIs by type	0	N/A	N/A
Total number of people receiving NFIs by sex and type	20,000 (10,000 females, 10,000 males)	22,425 Adults-11,038 (5,278 males; 5,760 females) Children -11,387 (6,038 boys; 5,349 girls)	100%

## Progress Against Planned Activities

### 1.1. Distribution of hygiene kits to 4,000 households (approximately 20,000 beneficiaries)

In the two-month project period, Plan distributed 4,000 hygiene kits to 4,005 flood-affected families (22,425 individuals – 11,038 adults and 11,387 children) in 5 villages in Dinalupihan, Bataan and 17 villages in Olongapo City. Contents of the hygiene kits include:

- Bathing soap (12 wrapped bars, 235 grams)
- Laundry soap (1 bar, 2kg)
- Adult toothbrush (2 medium pieces with bristle head covers)
- Child toothbrush (4 medium pieces with bristle head covers)
- Toothpaste (4 tubes, 75 ml)
- Soap box (2 pieces)
- Shampoo (1 bottle, 500 ml)
- Sanitary pads (3 packets)
- Towel (4 pieces, 10x10 cm)
- 20 liter capped plastic jerry can (1)



*Project beneficiaries receiving NFIs*

The project beneficiaries were selected based on Plan's assessment of the flood-affected communities. To ensure that urgent needs are met and that activities are not duplicated, Plan was in close coordination with the Philippine Red Cross, Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction Management Councils in Bataan and Zambales, local stakeholders and local government units. The beneficiaries identified include the poorest households who are beneficiaries of the conditional cash transfer program of the government<sup>3</sup>, pregnant

<sup>3</sup> The conditional cash transfer program of the Philippine government extends to 79 provinces covering 1,261 municipalities and key cities in all 17 regions nationwide. It has around 3,015,671 registered poorest households as of May 2012. A household of 3 qualifies that children receive a

and lactating mothers, single parents, widow/widower, separated, households with children/adults with disabilities, and elder headed households.

**Sector:** Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

**Sub-sector:** Hygiene Promotion

**Objective 2:** To provide for the immediate safe drinking water needs of affected populations

Performance against indicators	Target	Overall Target Achieved	% of Target Achieved
Number of people receiving direct hygiene promotion	20,000	22,425 (49.22% men & women; 50.78% boys & girls)	100%
Number of water kits distributed	4,000	4,000	100 %
Number of households who store their drinking water safely in clean containers	3,200 (80%)	74	2.32%
Number of households receiving water quality education, by sex	4,000 ( or approximately 20,000 individuals – 10,000 females, 10,000 males)	4,005 (22,425 individuals Adults- 11,038 (5,278 males;5,760 females) & 11,387 children (6,038 boys; 5,349 girls)	100%
Number of household drinking water supplies with FRC (trace)	3,200 (80%)	57	1.79%

## Progress against Planned Activities

### 2.1. Distribution of Hyposol point-of-use water purification solution to 4,000 households (approximately 20,000 beneficiaries)

Within the two-month period, the project completed the distribution of water kits which included jerry cans, point-of-use water purification solution (hyposol) and health information flyers benefiting a total of 22,425 individuals from 4,005 households. Plan project staff also conducted home-deliveries to persons with disabilities, pregnant and lactating mothers and the elderly who were not able to attend the distributions.

As part of the assistance package, beneficiaries were also oriented on the importance of treating water, water storage, disposal of human waste and proper hygiene practices. The orientation provided family

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subsidy of \$12 (Ps 500) per month for health and nutrition expenses and \$72 (Ps 3,000) per one school year per child for education expenses as long as they comply with the conditions like enrolling children to day care centres and schools, getting regular check-up at health centres, receiving immunization, etc.

members basic information on keeping their family healthy through proper hygiene practices. This also provided them with information on the importance of water treatment to ensure consumption of safe drinking water before damaged water systems from the flooding are fully restored.

### Challenges

Plan conducted two monitoring visits to 22 barangays in Olongapo and Bataan in October 8-9, 2013 and October 24-26, 2013 respectively. Although the project successfully distributed water kits to 4,005 families in the target areas, the project team was limited to sampling 105 individuals in the follow-up visits and as a result, this may be misrepresentative of the overall water safety practices of the beneficiaries. Beneficiaries surveyed have noted their reluctance to use hyposol because of the taste and also citing that they have forgotten how to use this properly. Plan is documenting the gaps in water drinking practices which will guide its future emergency WASH interventions.

Plan also held two focus group meetings among partner local government and village officials which aimed at seeking their views on the project, reflected on experiences and results and identified ways to improve future response work. Below are key highlights of the sessions:



*Hygiene and water kit distribution, October 2013*

#### *What went well?*

- Overall, distribution was organized and systematic. For those unable to come during the distribution, kits were delivered to the families especially those with disabilities, pregnant women and lactating mothers, and elderly caregivers;
- The orientations provided additional information on the importance of treating water, storing water in clean containers, proper disposal of human wastes, and proper hygiene practices;
- Families were assured of safe water before water systems were fully restored;
- Poorest households got the help they needed;
- Hygiene kits/ infant kits were all useful. Families noted that they have something to use for several months.

- Some beneficiaries shared part of the kits to their neighbours who did not receive assistance;
- Traditional concept of relief-giving has changed - from just giving food relief to sanitation and hygiene kits with orientation.

#### *Challenges*

- Some recipients were not present during the scheduled distribution. Around three (3) kits were given to replacement families.
- A few families still fear using the water treatment solution.
- For the partner government staff, the very short time for identifying families, validation and information dissemination before distribution was noted. Some recipients waited for another week before receiving the items (Olongapo);
- The project recorded a few cases of lost or lacking items perhaps during packing, delivery, or distribution;
- Some families were not well oriented and did not understand the instructions for hyposol. The sound system was not working well during distribution and orientation;

- Not all affected families were provided aid. There were poor families who were not given aid because they were not included in the original list of poorest families;
- Some people insisted on getting served first, making the distribution disorderly;
- Community residents became impatient towards village officials, with the suspicion that *Barangay* Captains were the ones who selected the beneficiaries;
- After the flooding, there were 324 reported cases of *leptospirosis* in Olongapo City. Of the cases reported, nine (9) persons eventually became casualties.

*Action points*

- Municipal staff to reorient families on proper hygiene, proper treatment of water, and monitoring use of Hyposol and kits. Include these in the monthly family development sessions;
- When resources (relief items) are limited, there is a need for better monitoring of most affected families. Ensure that lists of beneficiaries are verified to minimise leakage.
- Reach out to other households most in need in other affected barangays;
- Find local sources for *Hyposol* (or equivalent low cost treatment solution) so people can continue using them. The city or rural health centres can provide them for free;
- Orientation should include community residents who were not given aid. Selection of beneficiaries should be well understood in the target communities
- Replicate what has been done by the project - for future relief operations.

*How local partners score project performance*

Performance Standards (0 as lowest and 5 as highest rating)	Ave. Rating ( 0 to 5)	
	Olongapo	Bataan
Process of selecting most affected families	4.1	4.6
Extent of reaching most in need families	3.4	4.6
Timeliness of intervention to reach target families	3.1	4.7
Appropriateness of family hygiene kit and health orientations.	5	4.9
The way health sessions are conducted	<i>not rated</i>	4.9
How Plan staff works with LGU partners	4.6	5.0
How local government units' agencies work together before, during, and after relief operations	5.0	5.0
Involvement of actual beneficiaries in the processes	3.7	4.7
Readiness of local government unit in responding the disaster	3.9	5.0
Overall result of the emergency response	4.4	5.0

As to overall performance, the project was rated 4.4 and 5.0 by local partners in Olongapo and Bataan respectively. This indicates that despite the challenges encountered, partners generally consider the implementation of activities excellent.

**COORDINATION**

At different stages of the project from planning of activities up to evaluation Plan Philippines staff worked closely with social welfare and health unit staffs and local officials of the of City Government of Olongapo City, Zambales Province and Municipal Government of Dinalupihan, Bataan Province.

Municipal/Social Welfare and Health Unit staff and local officials of Bataan and Olongapo city were Plan’s main partners in the following project activities:

- identifying the family recipients, validation of sample families before distribution

- Coordination in delivery of items, scheduling of distribution and informing family recipients
- WASH and hygiene orientation to families during the distribution
- Distribution of relief items (2 batches)
- Follow up visits to sample families one week after the distribution
- Focus group discussions in Bataan and Olongapo to evaluate project.

## **PROCUREMENT**

Procurement of hygiene kits and hyposol were completed locally. Plan did not procure any motor vehicles or other restricted goods under this award.

Plan paid VAT/foreign taxes under the project: Because it was for a rapid-onset emergency response, there was insufficient time to secure Philippine Government Department of Finance (Bureau of Internal Revenue) VAT exemption. Rather than delay implementation of relief activities, the project went ahead as scheduled and VAT was paid.