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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 #8, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

November 3, 2009

*Note: The last fact sheet was dated October 22, 2009.*

### **KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- On October 31, Typhoon Mirinae (Santi) made landfall in central Luzon island with maximum sustained wind speeds of more than 93 miles per hour, bringing heavy rains and landslides to areas still flooded after Tropical Storm Ketsana (Ondoy). Humanitarian agencies credit Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) preparedness efforts with mitigating the effects of the typhoon. However, populations residing in affected areas, as well as individuals residing in areas previously affected by tropical storms in late September and early October, continue to require relief assistance.
- In preparation for Typhoon Mirinae, the GRP National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) and local government units (LGUs) pre-emptively evacuated more than 115,000 residents in the typhoon’s path. The GRP Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) prepositioned rapid response teams to assist LGUs, as well as approximately \$4 million in emergency relief supplies, funds, and food items for distribution to affected populations.
- On November 3, USAID/OFDA announced plans to provide an additional \$1.5 million to assist populations affected by recent tropical storms and flooding in the Philippines, bringing the total FY 2010 allocation to \$5.3 million.
- A USAID/OFDA regional advisor and information officer accompanied GRP and U.N. World Food Program (WFP) representatives on a November 2 U.N. Humanitarian Air Service flight over Lake Laguna, one of the areas most affected by Typhoon Mirinae. The team visited a relief supply staging area in Rizal Province, central Luzon, and participated in a distribution of prepositioned food stocks in Liliw municipality, Laguna Province.
- During an October 26 press conference at the U.S. Embassy in Manila, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) donation of approximately 7,000 metric tons (MT) of rice and 680 MT of nonfat dry milk under USDA’s Food for Progress Program. Valued at \$8.4 million, the assistance will benefit an estimated 438,000 people in the Philippines affected by Tropical Storm Ketsana and Typhoon Parma for 60 days.

<b>NUMBERS AT A GLANCE</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	
<b>Total Affected Population</b>	9,628,141	NDCC – November 3, 2009
<b>Dead</b>	948	NDCC – November 3, 2009
<b>Injured</b>	742	NDCC – November 3, 2009
<b>Missing</b>	87	NDCC – November 3, 2009
<b>Evacuated or Displaced</b>	103,384	NDCC – November 3, 2009
<b>Infrastructure Damage</b>	240,577 houses, as well as roads, bridges, schools, and agricultural land	NDCC – November 3, 2009

### **FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE**

**USAID/OFDA Assistance for Philippines Tropical Storms.....\$3,359,450<sup>1</sup>**  
**USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> Assistance for Philippines Tropical Storms .....\$1,200,000**  
**DoD<sup>3</sup> Assistance for Philippines Tropical Storms.....\$827,581**  
**USDA Assistance for Philippines Tropical Storms.....\$8,400,000**  
**Total USAID, DoD, and USDA Humanitarian Assistance for Philippines Tropical Storms .....\$13,787,031**

<sup>1</sup> This amount represents the portion of USAID/OFDA’s FY 2010 allocation of \$5.3 million awarded to date, 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 for Philippines tropical storms. USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of November 3, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

## **CURRENT SITUATION**

- According to the NDCC, Tropical Storm Ketsana, Typhoon Parma (Pepeng), and Typhoon Mirinae have affected more than 9.6 million people, leaving 948 people dead, more than 103,000 people displaced in shelters, and more than 240,000 houses damaged or destroyed as of November 3. Of the affected population, the number of new individuals affected by Typhoon Mirinae totaled 303,440 as of November 3, with 19 deaths attributed to the typhoon.
- Typhoon Mirinae primarily affected regions IV-A, V, and the National Capital Region (NCR) in central and southern Luzon, according to NDCC. The storm caused flooding in 107 *barangay*—the Philippines’ smallest administrative unit—and U.N. staff reported that the amount of standing floodwater in areas around Lake Laguna had significantly increased compared to levels observed during a flyover of the area prior to Mirinae’s landfall.
- According to U.N. and local government officials, the storm flooded more than 80 percent of Santa Cruz, the capital of Laguna Province, which has an estimated population of 105,000 people. Before the increased flooding from Mirinae, humanitarian agencies had projected that floodwaters were unlikely to fully recede in NCR and surrounding areas for two to three months.
- Assessments of Typhoon Mirinae’s impacts are ongoing. U.N. agencies, the GRP, and non-governmental organizations conducted a joint rapid needs assessment in Santa Cruz municipality on November 1 and plan to use assessment data to coordinate the humanitarian response.
- According to the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC), on November 2 at 11:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, a new tropical depression was located 184 miles east of Manila. The JTWC forecast predicts the tropical depression will weaken while bringing rain to southern Luzon island, before dissipating on November 4.
- Humanitarian agencies and the GRP are working to revise the U.N. Flash Appeal for Tropical Storm Ketsana, initially launched October 7 for more than \$74 million.

### ***Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)***

- According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), ongoing humanitarian priorities include access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation facilities, and provision of hygiene items in relocation sites and flood-affected areas. OCHA also listed solid waste collection, insect control, and rehabilitation and improvement of drainage systems as significant concerns.
- The U.N. WASH Cluster and GRP water cluster have noted difficulties in identifying appropriate means for safe excreta disposal in affected areas due to high or flooded water tables. Additionally, WASH and water cluster members have asked the clusters to review standard hygiene kit contents, as some items are considered expensive and other items have created waste management problems.
- Médecins Sans Frontières and Oxfam are currently building latrines to improve sanitation conditions in evacuation centers in Laguna and Rizal provinces. Action Against Hunger–Spain has been providing drinking water, solid waste disposal, and hygiene kits to affected individuals in Marikina municipality, NCR.

### ***Health***

- According to the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), the number of new cases of leptospirosis—a bacterial infection caused by exposure to water contaminated with animal urine—in the weeks following Tropical Storm Ketsana and Typhoon Parma constitutes an epidemic. As of October 27, reports from GRP Department of Health (DoH) hospitals and preliminary data from private hospitals indicate nearly 2,900 admissions for leptospirosis and 210 deaths nationwide since the tropical storms. The GRP National Epidemiology Center (NEC) reported that 1.7 million people in affected areas have been exposed to and are at high-risk of contracting leptospirosis.
- On October 27, a four-person WHO team of experts began a three-week assessment of epidemiological surveillance and clinical care of flood-related cases of leptospirosis.
- The DoH and LGUs have developed a strategy for leptospirosis prevention, control, and treatment. As of October 27, DoH and humanitarian partners had distributed leptospirosis prophylaxis to nearly 182,000 people in NCR and Region IV-A, southern Luzon island. DoH also has obtained agreements from private hospitals to admit patients that government hospitals cannot accommodate.
- As part of a GRP immunization campaign, GRP health officials and partners had immunized nearly 20,000 affected individuals for measles in regions III, IV-A, and NCR in central and southern Luzon as of October 31. The GRP also had issued vitamin A supplements to more than 54,000 people.
- From September 27 to October 26, DoH mobile missions deployed 429 teams—consisting of medical, public health, WASH, psychosocial, assessment, nutrition, and disease surveillance professionals—to 540 sites to provide health services to affected populations.

### ***Agriculture and Food Security***

- As of October 26, the GRP Department of Agriculture (DoA) estimates commodity losses valued at nearly \$497 million following Tropical Storm Ketsana and Typhoon Parma, as well as damage to irrigation and agricultural

infrastructure valued at more than \$58 million. DoA estimates Typhoon Mirinae had destroyed an additional \$3.3 million in crops and rice as of November 2.

- According to an October 23 preliminary assessment from the DoA and the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, 100,000 to 120,000 farming households in regions I, II, and III lost 100 percent of production and assets. The assessment results highlight provision of emergency seed and fertilizer supplies and repair of damaged small-scale irrigation systems as priorities at the onset of the November to December dry season.

#### ***Food Security and Emergency Food Assistance***

- WFP revised its estimates of emergency and early recovery needs, taking into account assessments of the impact of Typhoon Parma, and is calling for an additional 44,000 MT of food assistance through March 2010. WFP plans to reach a total of 1.5 million affected people, including 100,000 households of the poorest farmers who lost the entire rice harvest.
- WFP deployed an international food technologist to the Philippines during the week of October 26 to evaluate immediate possibilities for local production of ready-to-use supplementary foods and high-energy biscuits (HEB).
- To reach the most vulnerable children ages 6 to 23 months, WFP is preparing to establish supplementary feeding program in coordination with the GRP National Nutrition Council.
- Local authorities continue to distribute of 4,800 MT of locally purchased WFP rice and 100 MT of WFP-airlifted HEBs to affected individuals. WFP is in the process of procuring an additional 10,000 tons of rice to meet requirements for the coming months.

#### **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 the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) for the local purchase and delivery of emergency relief supplies. Funding also supported cleanup efforts focused in the Manila metropolitan area.
- In the weeks following the tropical storms, USAID/OFDA deployed a regional advisor, field officer, and WASH advisor to coordinate the USG response. On October 26, a USAID/OFDA regional advisor redeployed to the Philippines to assess flood impacts, facilitate USG assistance, and monitor the impact of Typhoon Mirinae, in coordination with the U.S. Embassy in Manila and USAID/Philippines. A USAID/OFDA information officer deployed to the Philippines on October 31.
- On October 2 and 13, in coordination with the U.S. Embassy in Manila and GRP authorities, USAID/OFDA arranged two charter flights that 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 ten-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 distribution to approximately 24,000 families.
- On November 3, USAID/OFDA increased its FY 2010 allocation to \$5.3 million for emergency grants to humanitarian organizations and other support in response to the effects of the storms. To date in FY 2010, USAID/OFDA has provided or planned nearly \$3.4 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 plans to program the remaining allocation of more than \$2 million based on ongoing assessments.
- In FY 2010 to date, USAID/FFP has provided 720 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at \$1.2 million, to WFP.
- On October 26, USDA announced the provision of approximately 7,680 MT of food assistance, valued at \$8.4 million, through the Food for Progress program in cooperation with the GRP DoA. The 60-day supply will benefit an estimated 438,000 affected individuals.
- 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>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
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/U.S. (SC/US)	WASH	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	\$1,000,000
World Vision/U.S.	Emergency Relief Supplies, Logistics and Transportation	Affected Areas	\$175,947
	Administrative Costs	Affected Areas	\$5,524
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$3,359,450</b>
<b>FFP</b>			
WFP	720 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$1,200,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$1,200,000</b>
<b>DOD</b>			
DoD	Emergency Relief Supplies, Logistics and Transportation	Affected Areas	\$827,581
<b>TOTAL DOD</b>			<b>\$827,581</b>
<b>USDA</b>			
GRP	7,680 MT of Food for Progress Assistance	Affected Areas	\$8,400,000
<b>TOTAL USDA</b>			<b>\$8,400,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE PHILIPPINES IN FY 2010</b>			<b>\$13,787,031</b>

<sup>1</sup>USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of November 3, 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](http://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](http://www.usaid.gov) – Keyword: Donations
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or (703) 276-1914
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)