

This report was issued by OCHA New York based on inputs from the OCHA Regional Office for Asia Pacific (ROAP) and OCHA Philippines. It covers the period from 8 to 11 October 2009 and addresses Typhoon Parma as well as Tropical Storm Ketsana. The next situation report will be issued on 12 October.

For a full NDCC report on the Government response, please visit www.ndcc.gov.ph

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- **Typhoon Parma (known locally as Pepeng) left the Philippines on 9 October, after reversing track twice over northern Luzon, bringing heavy rains to a far larger area than initially anticipated.**
- **The National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) reports that 2,267,527 people have been affected by Typhoon Parma as of 11 October, with 193 deaths confirmed and just over 100,000 people staying in 281 evacuation centres. Regions I, II, III and Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) have been most severely affected. Particularly heavy flooding has been reported in Pangasinan province in Region I. Most of the confirmed deaths have been due to landslides in Benguet province, in Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR).**
- **Joint rapid needs assessments, led by UNDAC and including participation by WFP (Food and Logistics), UNICEF (Health and WASH), WHO (Health), IOM (Shelter and NFIs) and UNFPA (Health and Protection), will be carried out in Paniqui (Tarlac province) and Bayambang, Rosales and Villasis (Pangasinan province) from 11 to 14 October. Initial reports are expected by tomorrow (12 October).**
- **Latest NDCC figures indicate that a total of 4,125,237 people were affected by Tropical Storm Ketsana (known locally as Ondoy), with 241,789 persons currently staying in 471 evacuation centres.**
- **Health and WASH clusters are responding to reports of an increase in the number of cases of Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) in San Pedro municipality, Laguna Province (Region IV-A).**
- **The UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mr. John Holmes, is scheduled to arrive in Manila for a two-day visit on 12 October.**

II. Situation Overview

Typhoon Parma (known locally as Pepeng) moved into the South China Sea on 9 October, after reversing track twice over northern Luzon, bringing heavy rains to a far larger area than had initially been anticipated. The NDCC reports 2,267,527 people¹ having been affected by Pepeng as of 11 October, with just over 100,000 people currently staying in 281 designated evacuation centres. This is in addition to the 4.1 million people reported to have been affected by Tropical Storm Ketsana (known locally as Ondoy) which struck Metro Manila and surrounding regions just over two weeks ago.

193 deaths have been confirmed by the NDCC in the areas affected by Typhoon Parma, with 46 people missing. Media sources report higher figures. Region I (Ilocandia) and Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) have been particularly badly affected. Most of the confirmed deaths have been caused by landslides in Benguet province, CAR. Landslides have also occurred in Mountain Province, also in CAR. Latest reports indicate that a total of 23,355 houses were damaged, of which 2,748 have been destroyed (mainly in Regions I and II).

¹ NDCC defines "affected population" as persons who experience a destructive event, affected in a direct or indirect manner; affected in this context should not therefore be read as necessarily meaning in need of humanitarian assistance.

Pangasinan province in Region I was badly flooded, largely due to the release of floodwaters from the San Roque Dam on the Agno River. Dike systems were breached. Media reports indicated that as much as 80% of the province was left underwater. Most floodwaters in Pangasinan have now receded, but the Department of Science and Technology reports that Mangaldan and San Fabian municipalities and Dagupan City are all expected to remain under water until early next week. An UNDAC-led inter-agency assessment team traveled to the area today (see below).

Power cuts continue in Regions I, II and III and telephone networks are subject to interruption. Government offices and local disaster management authorities are operational, using generator power. Search and rescue efforts continue but access is still restricted by road cuts due to landslide and washed out bridges affecting the national routes into Regions I, II and III. In total, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the Department of the Interior and Local Government and regional centres of the Office of Civil Defense report 1 major road, 51 secondary roads and 11 bridges affected by floodwater, landslides and mudslides. DPWH continues to carry out road clearing operations on all major networks going to Regions I, II and III; local police are managing traffic.

Relief efforts in areas affected by Typhoon Pepeng are being coordinated by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) from Tarlac City, (Region III).

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

Needs Assessments and Priorities

A 20-person rapid needs assessment team left Manila this morning (11 October) and has now established a Sub-OSOCC in Camp Aquino, Tarlac City. The team is UNDAC led and includes partners from WFP (Food and Logistics), UNICEF (Health and WASH), WHO (Health), IOM (Shelter and NFIs) and UNFPA (Health and Protection) which will allow for more detailed/cluster specific data collection. The team plans to conduct assessments in Paniqui (Tarlac province) and Bayambang, Rosales and Villasis (Pangasinan province) this afternoon and will remain in the area to conduct assessments until 14 October. Initial reports are expected by tomorrow (12 October). The UNDAC team in Manila continues to conduct assessments in Metro Manila.

On the request of the local government, members of the Early Recovery cluster (UNDP, ILO, UN-HABITAT) carried out a rapid needs assessment in Marakina City, Metro Manila on 9 October. Other cluster members including UNEP and FAO contributed to assessment questionnaires. A cluster partner, the ISDR Secretariat, also participated in the mission. Key findings in terms of early recovery needs are outlined below.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Humanitarian Response: WASH cluster partners are participating in the UNDAC-led rapid needs assessment of areas affected by Typhoon Pepeng.

Gaps and Constraints: The cluster is currently working to replenish contingency stocks with hygiene and water kits.

Health

Humanitarian Needs: The main causes of morbidity are currently Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (URTI), Diarrhea, Skin Infection, and Injuries. Health Cluster partners are responding to a rise in the number of cases of acute watery diarrhea in San Pedro municipality, Laguna Province (Region IV-A).

Humanitarian Response: MSF has sent a medical team to San Pedro municipality. WHO has procured and will donate 20 diarrheal kits that can treat up to 10,000 cases to Health Emergency Management Staff (HEMS) attached to the Department of Health (DOH) and NGOs that are providing medical care.

Gaps and Constraints: Increased funding is urgently needed to contain the potential spread of water-borne and diarrheal disease. Diarrheal disease surveillance systems, case management, and prevention measures need to be reinforced in all evacuation centers and flood-affected areas.

Food

Humanitarian Needs: Initial rapid assessments provisionally estimate that 1 million persons may be in need of emergency food assistance in October, giving priority to the internally displaced (evacuation camp-based and

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home-based) and those affected populations who would need to be relocated. Further, WFP estimates that this number might fall to approximately 500,000 during November and December. Reassessment of needs and beneficiary targeting is currently ongoing. Possible food needs related to the latest flooding are not yet established and are currently being assessed.

Humanitarian Response: Immediately following Tropical Storm Ketsana, WFP immediately responded with 740 MTs of locally-procured rice for family parcels in support of Government relief efforts. The Government has asked WFP to help establish a single food aid pipeline. To date, WFP has received US\$ 10.1 million towards its project in the Flash Appeal, with other donor pledges being confirmed. WFP has also borrowed \$7.5 million from WFP's Immediate Response Account to meet initial needs. WFP is procuring 18,000 tons of rice, 1,400 tons of pulses, 2,000 tons of oil, and 1,130 tons of high-energy biscuits and will be urgently dispatching these commodities as soon as they become available. To date, WFP has airlifted 105 MTs of high-energy biscuits (HEBs) to the Philippines. An additional 200 MTs of HEBs is expected on 16 October. WFP is continuing its food distribution today and tomorrow through the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in 3 different provinces of the Region IV. In addition, 45 MTs of rice were diverted to Region I, II and CAR for further distribution by DSWD in order to assist areas in the North that were badly affected by Typhoon Parma.

Gaps and Constraints: Full funding of existing requirements is urgently needed to ensure timely humanitarian food relief response as well as to help jump-start expected relief operations in Typhoon Parma affected regions. There is a need to establish a better picture of overall food needs and response to date. Targeting of inaccessible communities and other needy affected populations who are not in evacuation centers is a priority. Sufficient quantities of certain commodities (HEBs, pulses, vegetable oil) are not available in country on a cost-effective basis.

Camp Management and Camp Coordination and NFIs

Humanitarian Needs: WASH and Health are key priorities in evacuation centres; needs include temporary latrines, potable water storage, strengthened health referral systems and NFI distribution.

Humanitarian Response: CCCM cluster representatives are participating in the UNDAC-led joint assessment in Region III. The Government of the United States is channelling in-kind assistance through the CCCM/NFI cluster for distribution; the cluster is continuing to identify distribution partners. Mobile teams are visiting each evacuation centre on a weekly basis for monitoring purposes.

Gaps and Challenges: Mapping of displacement and humanitarian needs in Regions I, II, III and CAR. Health surveillance in evacuation centres needs to be strengthened. Increased quantities of WASH items are needed for water purification and storage in evacuation centres. Additional funding is likely to be needed for NFI provision in Regions I, II, III and CAR.

Shelter

Humanitarian Response: The first shelter cluster meeting was convened on 8 October; key outcomes included establishment of a Strategic Advisory Group to define a shelter strategy. The shelter cluster website is now operational.

Gaps and Constraints: Partners continue to report difficulties in accessing flooded areas outside Metro Manila. Better tracking of affected populations that have moved from evacuation centres that are reported to have closed is required.

Child Protection

Humanitarian Needs: Registration of missing, unaccompanied and separated children in all affected areas is needed. Impact on the psychosocial wellbeing of children in the Metro Manila area is becoming evident; similar effects are anticipated in more recently affected areas in the north. There are growing concerns about the impact of the disaster on street and working children in Metro Manila. There is increased vulnerability of children to trafficking, violence and sexual abuse in the worst affected areas.

Humanitarian Response: Over 500 volunteers have been mobilized and are actively undertaking psychosocial support and registration activities in over 45 evacuation centres in the Metro Manila area. Over 2,500 children are being reached daily with psychosocial support and structured play activities, and 104 separated, unaccompanied and missing children have been registered. An additional 300 volunteers have been mobilized and will initiate child protection activities in the coming week.

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Gaps and Constraints: Despite the high number of volunteers mobilized, reach remains dependent on the geographic presence of partners. On 9 October a new strategy to scale-up child protection activities was agreed to by partner organizations, whereby volunteers will begin to focus their efforts on mobilizing, building capacity and accompanying community-based child protection networks to undertake psychosocial support, registration and awareness raising, prevention, identification and referral of children vulnerable to violence, abuse, and exploitation. This approach is expected to significantly expand the reach of child protection activities to affected areas. Access difficulties and the lack of partners in northern areas is a major constraint. UNICEF will begin to work through existing networks and partners to identify organizations present in the north through which child protection activities can be undertaken.

Nutrition

Humanitarian Response: Small-scale assistance is being provided in evacuation centres including direct support to breastfeeding mothers and wet-nursing. Members of the nutrition cluster successfully carried out an orientation session on infant feeding in emergencies and planning for breastfeeding support in evacuation centres with the Department of Health (DOH). A total of 50 breastfeeding mothers have offered to provide breastfeeding support in evacuation centres. UNICEF is in close discussions with the Department of Health on limitation of donations of breast milk substitutes.

Gaps and Constraints: Funds are urgently needed to support the DOH and NGOs in ensuring good breastfeeding practices, protecting the lives of infants from the risk of diarrhoea.

Emergency Telecommunications

Humanitarian Response: A Telecoms Sans Frontieres (TSF) team returned from Cagayan (Region II) yesterday; communications infrastructure in the area has now been restored to pre-Parma levels; it is not currently envisaged that there is a need to establish a UN/humanitarian sub-office in the area. A two-member TSF team joined the UNDAC-led assessment travelling to Tarlac and Region I. A shipment of emergency telecommunications equipment from Dubai has now been cleared by Customs and will be used to improve repeater coverage in Metro Manila and other affected areas.

Gaps and Constraints: VHF coverage in northern Metro Manila is limited. Wide-area repeater coverage in Region IV-A is limited. Assessment of telecommunications gaps is ongoing.

Next steps: The cluster is currently finalising frequency licensing and repeater site permissions in Metro Manila and Tagatay (Region IV-A). Work with Ericsson on installation of a communications tower at the NDCC operations centre is ongoing.

Logistics

Humanitarian Response: Relief supplies for Regions I and II and CAR are to be delivered to Camp Servilliano Aquino in Tarlac City; DSWD will manage onward distribution. A representative of the Logistics cluster travelled to Tarlac today (11 October) to assess the cargo drop-off point. Two of three WFP-contracted helicopters are currently being assembled in-country; both are expected to be ready for relief operations by 13 October. The logistics cluster should be contacted directly for information on passenger procedures and booking forms (see contact details below). Transport operations should be submitted to the NDCC the previous afternoon to facilitate movement with police and local authorities. Current logistics maps are available at <http://www.logcluster.org/phl09a/map-centre>.

Next Steps: In Region IV-A, the cluster plans four logistics hubs in the Laguna de Bay area; suitable locations are currently being identified. The cluster is developing a request system to draw upon U.S. military assets currently deployed in support of the response. Guidance on cargo movement procedures will be distributed shortly, as well as movement request forms. New needs related to Typhoon Parma are expected to result in increased requirements for common service provision.

Agriculture

Humanitarian Needs: The Department of Agriculture (DA) now reports that damage to crops and agricultural facilities caused by the two storms has reached US\$213 million. 190,000 farmers are estimated to have been affected (this does not include populations dependent on fishing). A total of 185,763 hectares of rice-farming land was affected, of which 35,207 hectares was completely damaged. Other losses include 2,939 MT corn grains, 14,149 high value commercial crops, and approximately 12,500 heads of livestock and 84,000 heads of poultry. Losses in the fisheries sector are estimated at \$4.5 million. Key needs include agricultural inputs

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(seeds, fertilizers, tools, poultry, animals and fishing equipment) for affected populations dependent on agriculture.

Humanitarian Response: DA continues to submit regular damage reports. More detailed damage assessments of areas affected by Typhoon Pepeng will be carried out after floodwaters have subsided. The Department is pre-positioning agricultural inputs including seeds, fertilizers, tools and fishing equipment based on the results of current damage reports. An FAO Emergency Response Team will commence work tomorrow (12 October). It will assist the government in responding to immediate as well as medium term recovery and rehabilitation needs.

Gaps and Constraints: Detailed assessment of damages and needs for agricultural fisheries and livestock recovery and rehabilitation in affected areas in Regions I, II, III, IV-A, IV-B and V

Early Recovery

Humanitarian Needs (based on a needs assessment in Marikina City, Metro Manila, on 9 October): Affected families whose homes remain standing need assistance in carrying out repairs and removing debris. The 1,000 families identified for relocation will require support to ensure that relocation is consensual, that basic services will be provided and that needs in terms of livelihoods and employment will be met. Significant support will be required for solid waste removal; current volumes of waste are estimated to be equivalent to six months of normal levels. A significant loss of vital school assets has been reported (books, records, teaching aids, bags, uniforms). Schools are expected to be open in even the most affected site on 13 October. No gender issues were reported; both women and men are actively involved in debris clearance in sites visited. Rehabilitation of flood warning systems and emergency management capacity is an urgent need (to be linked with pre-existing plans by UNDP and PAGASA to strengthen end-to-end early warning systems).

Next Steps: The Early Recovery cluster will map out existing and immediately available resources; needs identified during the mission in Marikina will be addressed on a phased basis. UN-HABITAT will partner with Habitat for Humanity for the provision of shelter kits to Malanday barangay in Marikina and will mobilize the MDG Human Settlements Committee in partnership with PBSP, a private sector group, to cover the project in Marikina.

IV. Funding/Flash Appeal

On 10 October the Government of Japan announced a contribution of US\$4.5 million in support of WFP projects outlined in the Flash Appeal. The contribution will be used to purchase 6,700 metric tons of rice and to ensure that WFP's three emergency relief helicopters remain airborne over the course of the next month. Combining this latest announcement with information on the Financial Tracking Service (<http://ocha.unog.ch/fts2>), the Flash Appeal is currently approximately 25% funded.

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform the Financial Tracking Service of cash and in-kind contributions by sending an email to: fts@reliefweb.int

V. Coordination

The Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mr. John Holmes, is scheduled to arrive in Manila on 12 October to review the emergency response to Tropical Storm Ketsana and Typhoon Parma, and to meet with Government officials at the highest level. A press conference is scheduled for the morning of 13 October.

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