Situation Update

- Following the extensive trail of damage left by typhoons Goni (Rolly) and Vamco (Ulysses) in November 2020, more than 4,400 households (almost 18,000 individuals) remain displaced. Seventy-eight percent of households are staying in 141 government-run evacuation centres across the National Capital Region, Region II (Cagayan Valley), Region III (Central Luzon), Region IV-B (CALABARZON), and Region V (Bicol). The rest are staying with friends or relatives in regions II, V, and the Cordillera Administrative Region.

- The government-led response to communities affected by the typhoons has been supported by other humanitarian efforts across the region from United Nations agencies, non-government organizations, the private sector, and civil society organizations. These have particularly focused on meeting the following needs: food, nutrition, alternative sources of income, emergency shelter, early recovery, protection, shelter repair, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH).

- WFP augments the Government’s response efforts through cash-based assistance projects in the provinces of Albay and Catanduanes in Bicol with contributions from the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (UN CERF) and the Government of Australia.

In Numbers

Over **4.2 million** people affected across eight regions

**US$ 194 million** in agricultural damages

*3,508* households or *13,560* individuals are staying in evacuation centres

*966* households or *4,366* individuals are staying outside evacuation centres, with relatives or friends

Highlights

- WFP has distributed **US$ 434,772** (PHP 21.14 million) through cash-based transfers to the most vulnerable families affected by Typhoon Rolly (Goni) in the provinces of Albay and Catanduanes in Bicol Region since December 2020.

- Another cash-based transfer intervention is expected to roll out in March 2021, in support of 1,125 farming families affected by Typhoon Ulysses (Vamco) in Cagayan Valley.

WFP Response

Programme

- In coordination with the national and regional Department of Social Welfare and Development, WFP rolled out its cash-based assistance project to support typhoon-affected families in the provinces of Albay and Catanduanes in Bicol in December 2020. WFP’s cash-based assistance is carried out in three tranches to provide financial support to the families’ most immediate food, nutrition, basic shelter repair needs. **As of 10 March, WFP reached a total of 5,443 families (27,215 individuals) identified as most vulnerable.**

  - In November 2020, immediately following the typhoons, WFP received a generous contribution
of US$ 523,636 from the Government of Australia. WFP is utilizing these funds to reach the most vulnerable groups including households with pregnant and lactating women, children, and the elderly through three rounds of cash-based assistance. From December 2020 to January 2021, WFP completed its first round of cash distributions to 2,443 families (12,215 individuals). The second round began in February 2021 (ongoing) and aims to reach 1,630 most vulnerable families identified by the local government and WFP among the first round of beneficiaries. Out of 1,630 targeted households, 1,608 have already claimed their cash assistance.

David and Paz Tafel are two of the selected beneficiaries that received support from WFP through the contribution from the Government of Australia. They expressed their gratitude for the assistance and said they used the cash for their food needs and to repair their roof. Photo: © WFP/Maitta Rizza Pugay

- With a US$ 667,000 contribution from the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), WFP is also implementing cash-based assistance in Albay and Catanduanes. For the first round of cash distributions, WFP reached a total of 2,998 families (14,990 individuals). The second round of cash distributions is ongoing; WFP has reached 1,202 families (6,010 individuals) as of 10 March.

- The United Nations agencies' combined humanitarian interventions in the Bicol Region are utilizing SCOPE, WFP’s robust platform for registering beneficiaries and tracking the entitlement received, as endorsed by the Government of the Philippines. Among these agencies, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) are also using SCOPE in their interventions for their Typhoon Rolly response.

WFP’s cash assistance to typhoon-affected families in Albay and Catanduanes, with the UN CERF contribution. The second tranche is ongoing. Photo: © WFP/Christine Ringor

- WFP will be implementing another cash-based assistance project in Cagayan Valley, in response to the impact of Typhoon Ulysses, which submerged several areas. WFP will prioritize farming households whose livelihoods activities have been majorly affected by the flooding, in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and in coordination with the regional government and Department of Agriculture. This project will be rolled out in March 2021 using a US$ 387,340 contribution from the Government of Australia.

**Logistics**

Along with its logistics augmentation support to the Government’s COVID-19 response, WFP is also providing transportation and logistics equipment to the Government’s disaster recovery operations. In February, WFP mobilized four trucks to the Department of Social Welfare and Development Region V to move cargo containing essential items between Camarines Norte and Camarines Sur.

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