Super Typhoon Odette Humanitarian Needs and Priorities

DSWD DROMIC Report #25 on Typhoon Odette – 27 December 2021

Situation Update

• Typhoon Odette – international name “Rai” – barrelled through the Philippines from 16 December, affecting Northern Mindanao, parts of Visayas, and making its ninth landfall on Palawan on 17 December.

• The Government of the Philippines continues to assess the extent of the damages following its aftermath and leads humanitarian efforts in affected regions.

• While telecommunications, transportation, power and other services have been restored in some areas, many remain inaccessible and disconnected. Means of transportation are still limited, therefore slowing down relief efforts; while some islands are accessible by ferries, WFP is assessing last mile access. Humanitarian needs in some areas are yet to be fully assessed.

• According to the Humanitarian Needs and Priorities Plan launched by the Humanitarian Country Team, Typhoon Odette has damaged more than 201,000 houses and caused US$ 51.6 million of agricultural losses.

WFP Response

Logistics Support

• Since Odette made landfall, WFP has mobilized 79 trucks carrying over 119,500 government-supplied Family Food Packs, 1,899 hygiene kits, 1,040 sleeping kits, 1,040 family kits, and other non-food relief items to affected areas. WFP is delivering relief items on behalf of the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to eight locations across five regions: Central Luzon (Clark, Pampanga), MIMAROPA (Palawan), Western Visayas (Himamaylan City and Iloilo City), Central Visayas (Dumaguete, Cebu, and Bohol), and Caraga (Surigao City).

• WFP has provided and assisted in the installation of three mobile storage units and one generator, thus establishing an emergency logistics hub in hard-hit Surigao City.

Telecommunications

• WFP has supported the deployment of four Mobile Operations Vehicles for Emergencies (MOVE) sets. These are rapidly deployable emergency communication devices integrated into custom vehicles that enable ICT-enabled support to disaster-stricken areas. With telecommunications down across Mindanao and the Visayas, the four MOVE sets provide a vital communications link between DSWD and OCD, including a relay to Siargao Island and Dinagat. Without this system, the complexity of this emergency response would

In Numbers

2.4 million people in need of assistance
10 regions affected
523,043 people still displaced
61,000 ha of agricultural land damaged

WFP Funding Requirements for Typhoon Odette

US$ 1.3M funded out of a required US$ 25.8M

Highlights

• WFP urgently needs US$ 20.8 million to provide life-saving food and cash to support 250,000 people in the most affected areas; US$ 4 million to sustain transport support to the Government; and US$ 1 million to support re-establishment of communication services.

• Since the onset of Typhoon Odette, WFP has so far mobilized 79 trucks and transported 119,500 government food packs and other relief cargo.

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have been much greater. MOVE is unique to the Philippines, the global prototype having been co-built and co-designed by DICT and WFP emergency telecommunications experts over the last year. These were used for the first time in response to the impact of Typhoon Odette.

- One WFP IT expert, who arrived in Surigao City on 15 December to preposition the MOVE com unit from Butuan, remains active on the ground.
- WFP has also supported the installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSAT) with two units in Surigao, three in Siargao Island, and two in Dinagat Islands. VSATs are portable ETC devices that enables two-way communication and are useful in emergency response.
- Through the Global ETC Cluster based in Dubai, UAE, ETC experts to deploy to the Philippines have been identified and are currently pending visa and clearances.

**Resourcing Update**

- WFP thanks its donors, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Government of Ireland and private sector organizations, for contributing to WFP’s operations. Likewise, WFP is grateful for USAID’s yearly funding support of US$ 500,000 that allowed WFP to immediately provide logistics support to the Government in the aftermath of Typhoon Odette.
- WFP has launched a global appeal through ShareTheMeal, the organization’s crowdfunding app that enables individuals to directly donate to any of WFP’s operations featured in the app through their smartphone. The proceeds being raised through ShareTheMeal will assist more than 250,000 people affected by the typhoon in the next six months. Out of its initial target of 500,000 meals, WFP has so far reached 72,000 meals. Individuals can help WFP reach more beneficiaries by donating here.
- The Philippines Humanitarian Country Team, coordinated by OCHA, launched a Humanitarian Needs and Priorities Plan on 24 December to scale up the ongoing emergency response operations in the affected areas. The total required amount for six months is US$ 107.2 million to reach at least 530,000 people in the worst affected areas, with activities planned until June 2022.

**WFP’s request is US$ 25.8 million, focused on the following sectors:**

- **Food Security** – Of the total needs for the sector standing at US$ 34 million, WFP requires US$20.8 million to: (1) meet life-saving food needs of the affected population, especially the most vulnerable and living in hard-to-reach areas; (2) restore lost agriculture and fisheries resources; and (3) provide unconditional transfers for immediate food needs.
- **Logistics** – US$ 4 million is requested by WFP to augment transport support for the Government’s movement of relief cargo, and to purchase equipment to set up four logistics hubs.
- **Emergency Telecommunications (ETC)** – US$ 1 million is required by WFP to support the Department of Information and Communications Technology to: (1) establish communication services and government offices and coordination points; (2) support re-establishing data connectivity in regional and local hubs through hotspots.

**WFP Requirements: Humanitarian Needs and Priorities Plan**

**US$ 25.8M**

REQUIRED BY WFP

**FOOD SECURITY**

US$ 20.8M REQUIRED BY WFP, (OF THE TOTAL US$ 34M FOR THE SECTOR)

**EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

US$ 1M REQUIRED BY WFP

**LOGISTICS**

US$ 4M REQUIRED BY WFP
Photo: WFP provides logistics support to the Department of Social Welfare and Development in the transportation of family food packs from Metro Manila to Dumaguete City. ©DSWD/Ronald Reonal