



WFP Philippines

Typhoon Odette - Situation Report #4

6 January 2022

Highlights

- **Food prices are rising** due to damage to agriculture and supply chain disruptions in typhoon-affected areas. Markets are operating but affordability is a concern.
- WFP's Typhoon Odette response sustains the Government's operations by transporting critical relief items and helping to stabilize connectivity in provinces with damaged power and communications infrastructure.
- **WFP has \$4.7 million confirmed contributions out of \$25.8 million required** to assist 250,000 people with food and cash transfers, plus support government and other organizations' logistics and telecommunications needs. Further contributions are urgently needed.

In Numbers

7.4 million people affected¹

10 regions affected¹

459,837 people still displaced¹

61,000 ha of agricultural land damaged²

Situation Update

- **Humanitarian needs continue to rise as the scale of Odette's destruction becomes clearer.** Agricultural damage has reached PHP 9 billion (US\$ 176.5 million), according to the Department of Agriculture as of 31 December. More than 132,000 farmers and fisherfolk were affected in the 11 regions that suffered the most.
- The Central Bank of the Philippines warned that **consumer prices will rise following disruptions in supply caused by Odette.** To minimize potential inflation, the Central Bank recommended non-monetary interventions to guarantee domestic food supply. Meanwhile, field assessments in affected areas reported some markets are functional, including small shops and stores. However, **prices have doubled from pre-typhoon levels in some areas.**
- The weather bureau reported that two weather systems will cause **rains over Visayas, Mindanao, and Palawan this week**, noting that some areas may experience flash floods or landslides during scattered moderate to heavy rains and severe thunderstorms. The northern section of Mindanao and Visayas were also in Odette's trail of destruction, hence continued severe weather conditions will likely exacerbate the already dire situation of those affected and displaced, and this could further affect the infrastructure that has already been damaged along Odette's path.

WFP Response

- WFP is complementing the Government's typhoon response through logistics surge and emergency telecommunications operations. WFP aims to expand support by **providing lifesaving food to the most vulnerable food insecure populations**, particularly those whose food security situations were already compromised prior to Odette's onslaught, due to economic hardships and the COVID-19 pandemic. To support 250,000 people to meet their immediate food needs, **WFP needs US\$ 20.8 million to provide food and cash transfers for the next six months.** For the first phase, WFP will distribute food to ensure communities can cover essential food needs while food prices are still unstable. This will be followed by a cash programme to assist in their recovery while at the same time stimulating local economies where markets are already functioning.
- For logistics and emergency telecommunications operations, WFP requires **US\$ 4 million and US\$ 1 million**, respectively.

Logistics Support

- As an archipelago, transporting food and other necessities to affected islands in an expedited manner has been one of the challenges faced by the Government. WFP has been bridging the gaps and complementing existing efforts since the day

¹ [DSWD DROMIC Report on Typhoon Odette – 5 January 2021](#)

² [Super Typhoon Odette Humanitarian Needs and Priorities](#)

Typhoon Odette struck. To date, **WFP has supplemented the Government's operations with 113 trucks carrying more than 129,000 family food packs**, as well as other relief items such as hygiene kits, sleeping kits, and family kits. Relief items are being delivered to nine locations designated by the Government, to be further dispatched and distributed to affected communities.

- On 2 January, WFP and the Philippine Disaster Relief Foundation **completed the delivery of food packs, hygiene kits, and sleeping kits** to the municipalities of Roxas, San Vicente, and Taytay in the island-province of **Palawan** from Butuan City.
- **Twelve additional mobile storage units (MSU)** procured from the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia are en route to Davao. United Parcel Service (UPS) will transport eight of these MSUs, along with several Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSAT) as part of its cooperation with WFP. A **WFP logistics officer has been deployed to Davao** to oversee the arrival of MSUs and VSATs. These MSUs are part of the plan to establish another three logistics hubs in worst-hit areas, in addition to the one already established by WFP in Surigao City. Exact locations of new hubs will be determined in the coming days following consultations with the Government
- WFP's logistics surge support has been further requested by the Office of Civil Defense to **supplement with 60 additional trucks for the movement of critical relief items.**
- **WFP will conduct a roads-and-ports assessment** in the coming days to determine the status of logistics infrastructure in affected areas, such as in Hayanggabon Port in Claver, Surigao del Norte, the jump-off point to the island-municipality of Socorro in Surigao del Norte.

Emergency Telecommunications (ETC)

- In areas where power and communication lines were damaged, WFP immediately responded to the Government's request for support in the **installation and operation of rapidly deployable emergency communication devices and vehicles.** To date, four Mobile Operations Vehicles for Emergencies (two of which were deployed ahead of the typhoon's landfall) and 11



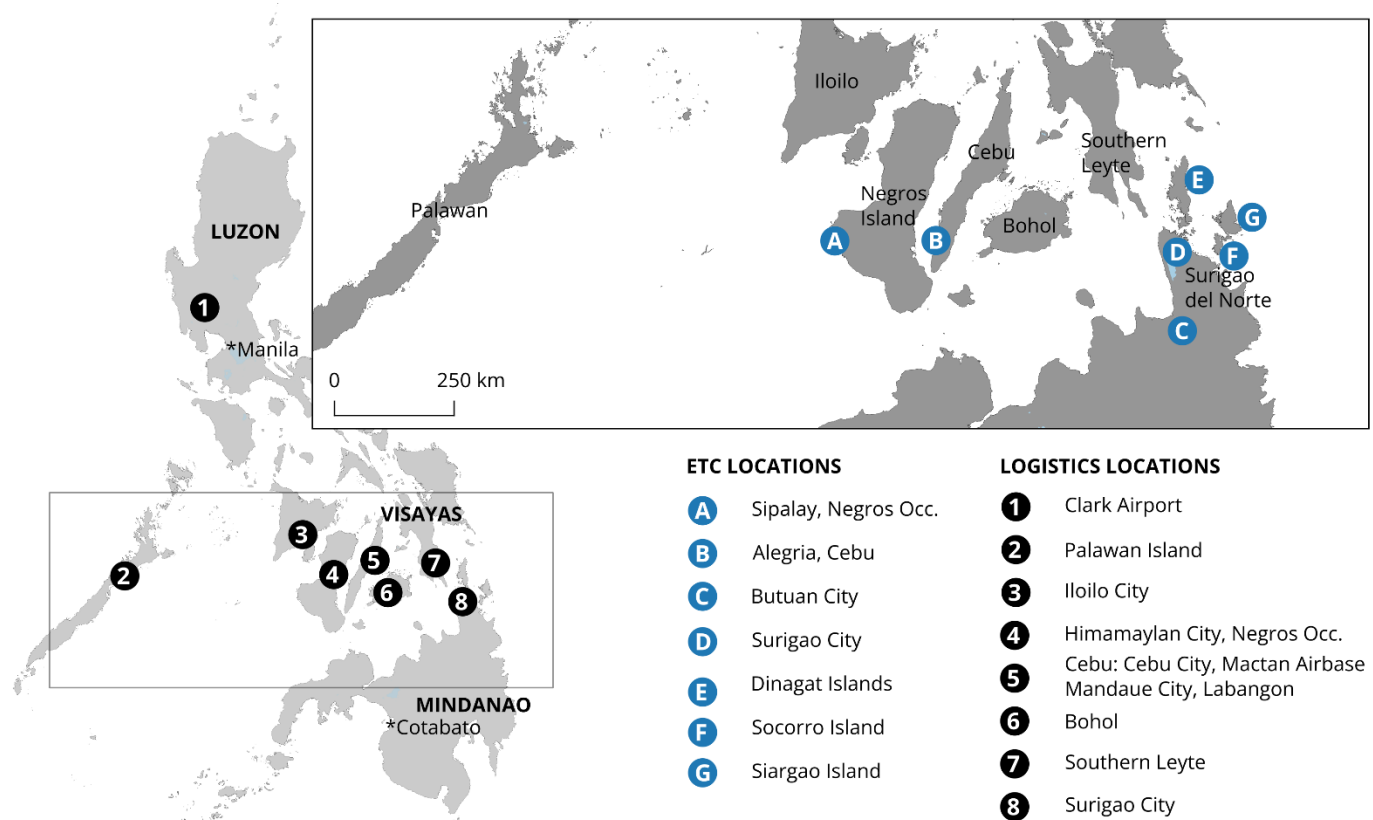
Photo: At the request of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), WFP mobilized trucks for food, hygiene and sleeping kits to three municipalities in Palawan via barge. ©DSWD

VSATs are spread out in 13 different sites across seven cities/islands namely, Surigao City, Sipalay City, Alegria, Butuan City, Siargao, Dinagat, and Socorro. Even before the typhoon hit, WFP had deployed one IT expert to the affected areas for anticipatory support measures. The IT expert remains on location to support the Department of Information and Communications Technology.

- The Global ETC Cluster based in Dubai will reinforce its support through the **deployment of an ETC coordinator and three ICT specialists** (one from WFP Fast IT Telecommunications Emergency Support Team; two from standby partner Ericsson Response).

Resourcing Update

- WFP thanks the governments of the United States of America and Ireland, and private sector organizations, for contributing to WFP's operations; as well as to the governments of Australia and Brazil for confirming contributions. WFP is grateful for USAID's regular funding support of US\$ 500,000 that allowed WFP to immediately provide logistics support to the Government in the aftermath of Typhoon Odette.
- WFP is grateful to private individuals who have contributed to its operations through its global appeal on **ShareTheMeal**. As of 5 January, 191,000 meals of a target 500,000-meal appeal have been raised. Help WFP assist more people with just a tap on your smartphone [here](#).
- WFP has sent immediate appeals to traditional and emerging donors to secure contributions to its planned multi-sectoral emergency response covering food security, logistics, and ETC, valued at US\$ 25.8 million.



Source of information: WFP PHCO | CRS: EPSG 32651
The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Prepared by: Francis Josef Gasgonia, VAM Associate WFP (wfp.philippines@wfp.org) | Date: 05 January 2022

Contact Us:

WFP Country Director:
Brenda Barton, brenda.barton@wfp.org

Reports and Operational Information Management:

Catherine Mones, catherine.mones@wfp.org
Martin Winkler, martin.winkler@wfp.org