Philippines: Typhoon Hagupit

Country: Philippines

Typhoon Hagupit (local name Ruby) is now out of the Philippine Area of Responsibility. It made four landfalls in the country, the first one near Dolores, Eastern Samar on 6 December, before exiting on 10 December. At least 19 were confirmed dead as a result of the typhoon.

The Government of the Philippines has not officially requested for international assistance. It has activated its Response Clusters System, and WFP is providing support in terms of Food and Non-Food Items (NFIs), Logistics, and Emergency Telecommunications.

WFP has finalized an Immediate Response Emergency Operation (IR-EMOP) worth US$1 million. The three-month operation is aimed at addressing the priority needs of some 360,000 people affected by the typhoon through general food distribution of rice and high-energy biscuits (HEBs) and cash transfers.

Distribution of HEBs to an estimated 300,000 beneficiaries started today in 17 municipalities in Eastern Samar.

Situation Update

The typhoon is now out of the country, and the Government has conducted a Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment to determine the actual impact of the disaster, and the scale of assistance and response that will be required. The results are expected to be released today.

The Government leads the relief operations, and the humanitarian community is providing support through the Response Clusters system to augment their capacity.

The Government has completed the first wave of family food pack distribution (which included rice, canned meat, canned sardines, noodles and coffee) to 23 municipalities in Eastern Samar, which was the hardest hit province.

WFP Response

The Government has officially requested WFP for logistics support and provision of additional food

In numbers

- 2,915,262 people affected
- 868,624 people displaced

Funding Requirements:

US$1.0 million

WFP

Food Security Cluster
Not activated.

ETC Cluster
Not activated.

Logistics Cluster
Not activated.
and NFIs. WFP continues to liaise with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to ensure needs are fulfilled.

- In addition to food distribution, WFP is also looking to implement unconditional and conditional cash transfers in January 2015, leveraging on DSWD’s social safety net program (Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program or 4Ps) for the poor households in the affected areas. WFP also plans to reach vulnerable households not under the 4Ps platform.
- WFP has deployed staff to Cebu to coordinate with the Government’s One-Stop Shop (logistics base), and a fully inclusive team to Borongan, Eastern Samar to conduct rapid assessments and facilitate the monitoring of initial food distributions in the area.

Food Assistance

- As requested by DSWD, WFP is providing 600mt of rice and 100mt of HEBs to supplement the family food package.

Logistics

- WFP has prepositioned food, NFIs and logistics assets in its strategic warehouses in Manila, Cebu and Cotabato.
- As of 12 December, WFP has completed the delivery of a total of 30mt of HEBs and 100mt of rice to Tacloban and Borongan. Additional 100mt of rice and 68mt of HEBs are on the way from Manila as well as 60mt of rice from Cebu. The remaining quantities of rice will be delivered from the National Food Authority warehouse in Tacloban in the next few days.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- The Global ETC has not been activated. WFP as the lead agency continues to offer common services to the Government and the humanitarian community.
- WFP on 7 December provided ten satellite phones to DSWD.

Partnerships

- Meetings with potential national and international NGO partners, who have expressed interest in partnering with WFP for the implementation and monitoring of the activities, have started.

Resourcing Update

- WFP is currently working on resourcing for the IR-EMOP valued at US$1 million.

Contacts

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