Humanitarian Situation Report 4: Philippines (Typhoon Bopha)
Period Covered: 12-18 December 2012
Issued on 18 December 2012
Highlights

- Two weeks after Typhoon Bopha (local name: Pablo) lashed into Mindanao, the picture of devastation it left is almost complete. Typhoon Bopha proved deadlier and far more destructive than last year’s Tropical Storm Washi (local name: Sendong). The number of fatalities breached 1,000 and the number of missing persons continues to rise at 844. About a third of the identified casualties are children. Almost a million persons are currently displaced as more than 167,000 houses were partially or totally destroyed. More than 395,000 pre-schoolers and school aged children are affected as at least 592 schools were damaged and 230 others used as evacuation centers during the early days of the disaster. Power supply has not been fully restored in 33 areas and piped water supply is still out in 6. The cost of damage to public infrastructures, agriculture and the private sector is estimated at around US$ 620 million.

- The Philippine government has stepped up its relief and recovery efforts following President Aquino’s declaration of State of National Calamity (Proclamation No. 522) and has provided initial assistance to more than 230,124 families or about a million persons approximately worth US$ 4.4 million. The Philippine Government has also accepted the offer of the UN and the international humanitarian community for emergency assistance. The UN and humanitarian partners have appealed for US$ 65 million to provide immediate life-saving aid and support for recovery to communities affected by Typhoon Bopha. Part of this appeal is UNICEF’s request for support for WASH, Nutrition, Education and Child Protection in the amount of US$ 12.9 million.

- Local authorities activated and convened the relevant clusters at the sub-national level in Region XI (Southern Mindanao). UNICEF maintained its co-leadership role in the clusters for WASH, Nutrition, Education (with Save the Children) and the working group for Child Protection and was instrumental in mobilising partners for the concerned clusters.

- UNICEF has made available to government and other partners its pre-positioned emergency supplies for immediate assistance. UNICEF has so far delivered and in transit to the communities US$347,666 worth of supplies, mainly family water kits and family hygiene kits.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

- According to government the number of persons affected by Typhoon Bopha has reached 6,203,826 (or 701,224 families) in 2,910 barangays (villages). About 2.6 million of them are children. These are located in 312 municipalities and 40 cities in 34 provinces of nine administrative regions. Most affected are the Provinces of Davao Oriental and Compostela Valley in Region XI and Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur in Caraga Region. They were the first to be struck when the typhoon made its first landfall.

- The number of displaced persons continues to increase by the day as damage reports still trickle in. The latest figure stands at 985,489 persons (or 230,124 families) with 167,295 houses damaged partially or totally. Majority (97%) are staying outside of evacuation centres, with their relatives, friends or near their place of residence. Most of the displaced live in rural areas. Many still have a piece of lot to go back to, hence their preference to stay outside of evacuation centres.

- Shelter is an immediate need as there are areas where structures were completely damaged. Most of the houses along the path of the typhoon had their roofs blown off, if not the entire structure. Food is also a need, especially in the long term when food aid may stop. It would take years for agriculture to recover from the devastation.
• The water system in many affected areas is contaminated. Some municipalities such as New Bataan do not have enough water for drinking, bathing, and washing. Access to toilets in the evacuation centres is very poor with reports of open defecation. There is no proper disposal of garbage and de-sludging has become a problem in Compostela Valley. Assessments are still ongoing in remote areas with supplies not reaching these areas.

• More than 110,000 pupils and pre-schoolers were rendered without access to learning facilities as 2,478 classrooms and 177 day care centres were damaged or completely destroyed by the Typhoon. Most of them are in Region XI. Students in many areas affected more likely may have lost all their books and school materials.

• Many children who are directly and indirectly affected by the typhoon had experienced profound stress. Experiencing disaster on this scale; death or injury to loved ones; separation; devastation of homes; and the sudden disruption of normal life can have a significant effect on children’s well-being, and this can be made worse by prolonged displacement.

• School teachers and day care workers aired urgent appeals for provision of psychosocial support services for themselves and for the affected children.

• There is a need to reach out to unaccounted children in the interior affected areas – in particular in Baganga, Boston and Cateel in coastal province of Davao Oriental which are populated by Indigenous People (Mandaya tribe) and New Bataan, Moncayo in Compostela Valley province. Child protection partners expect a similar scenario in Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur. Human traffickers were reported to be present in typhoon-ravaged areas. Children have also lost their legal documents such as birth registration certificates, school and health records. There is a critical need to facilitate the reissuance of these documents so that children and families can exercise their right to support services.

### Estimated Affected Population

(Estimates calculated based on initial figures from [NDRRMC Update, SitRep No. 30, 17 December 2012, 8:00 AM])

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start of humanitarian response: 04 December 2012</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male (49%)</th>
<th>Female (51%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Affected Population</td>
<td>6,203,826</td>
<td>3,039,875</td>
<td>3,163,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Affected (Under 18)- (42% of population)</td>
<td>2,605,607</td>
<td>1,276,747</td>
<td>1,328,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under Five (12.5% of population)</td>
<td>325,701</td>
<td>159,593</td>
<td>166,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 6 to 23 months (29% of Children Under-5)</td>
<td>94,453</td>
<td>46,282</td>
<td>48,171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant women (6.5% of population)</td>
<td>403,249</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total displaced population</td>
<td>985,489</td>
<td>482,890</td>
<td>502,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children displaced (42%)</td>
<td>413,905</td>
<td>202,814</td>
<td>211,091</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Humanitarian leadership and coordination

• The cluster system has been integrated in the Philippine Disaster Management system by virtue of several memorandum circulars issued by the National Disaster Coordination Council (now National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council-NDRRMC). The Philippine Government assumes leadership role in all the clusters with several government agencies acting as cluster leads. The Government has replicated the clusters at the sub-national level where large-scale emergencies have occurred.
• UNICEF co-leads with the government the clusters for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Nutrition, Education (with Save the Children) and the working group for Child Protection. The Department of Health (DOH) is the lead for WASH and Nutrition; the Department of Education (DepEd) for Education and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)-Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) for Child Protection. These national clusters were already on alert and on stand-by days before Typhoon Bopha hit the Philippines. Sub-national clusters in Region XI were convened and organised within the first week of the disaster.

• UNDAC (UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination) teams were already in Manila on standby for the rapid needs assessment. The NDRRMC requested for a Joint Needs Assessment on Day 2 of the disaster. Three teams were immediately organised and deployed by the NDRRMC and OCHA to three affected regions, namely Region X, XI and Caraga (XIII). UNICEF had staff participating in all three teams. The teams completed the rapid assessment and have submitted their initial findings, resulting in particular focus of humanitarian action to the provinces of Davao Oriental, Compostela Valley, Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur.

• The UN Resident Coordinator acts as the Humanitarian Coordinator and leads the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), which is composed of UN agencies, IOM and other international organisations. UNICEF is also part of the NDRRMC-HCT Technical Working Group that tackles technical issues on humanitarian action between the UN and the government.

**UNICEF Programme Strategy**

The UN and humanitarian partners prepared an Action Plan for Recovery which outlines a six-month plan of response that will deliver urgently needed food, water, shelter and other life-saving needs to some 480,000 seriously-affected people in the worst-hit areas. It also includes support for the protection, education and physical and psychosocial recovery of affected families, particularly the most vulnerable. This Action Plan is an addendum to the Humanitarian Action Plan that has been prepared by the UN and the humanitarian community for 2013.

UNICEF had contingency stocks pre-positioned in Manila and Cotabato City that would cover 10,000 families. These were all mobilised and made available to government and other partners for this emergency. All the hygiene and water kits on stock, for instance, had been delivered to the areas as requested by the Department of Health.

UNICEF is adopting an integrated approach to its humanitarian response which provides a convergence of services that bring together education, health and nutrition, WASH, psychosocial support and protection for children. These services converge in the Temporary Learning Centres, Child-Friendly Spaces, Mother and Baby-Friendly Centres, other health and education facilities as well as other community mechanisms. This set up would offer the most responsive package of assistance that will work best for the interest of the affected children without prioritising one sector over the other.
**UNICEF Action to Date**

**WASH**
- UNICEF has responded to the request of Department of Health for water and hygiene kits for delivery in Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental Provinces. Some 3,500 water kits, 3,500 hygiene, 1,747 tarpaulins kits and 150 latrine slabs with P-traps have been dispatched. With these latrine slabs and tarpaulins, partners have on-going construction in Compostela Valley Province, 32 latrines in New Bataan and 18 latrines in Compostela. Partners are planning to construct 100 latrines in Davao Oriental.
- Additional supplies are arriving in Davao City on 23 December due to logistics concern from Manila to Davao. The supplies consists of 3,500 water and hygiene kits, 12 water bladders, 350 squat plates and fittings, 150 boxes of ORS and 14,282 pcs IEC materials on safe drinking and hand washing.
- Project Cooperation Agreements with NGOs OXFAM, ACF and A Single Drop for Safe Water include ‘emergency clauses’, which have been initiated for immediate response of partners through water tankering and construction of latrines.
- UNICEF continues to give technical assistance and supplies to DOH and co-leads the WASH Cluster at the sub-national level.

**Nutrition**
- Cluster was officially convened in co-leadership with Department of Health.
- Initial supply of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) good for 100 children with severe acute malnutrition were delivered to DOH.
- MUAC tapes for rapid screening were provided to DOH mobile assessment and response teams.
- UNICEF also supported the government in mobilizing breastfeeding support groups composed of barangay health workers, nutrition scholars, and council of women in Compostela Valley.
- IYCF community counselling cards are en-route to Davao City.

**Education**
- UNICEF worked with Education Cluster members in preparing a project proposal for an EiE multi-agency response.
- Local Education Cluster was convened in co-leadership with Save the Children and Department of Education initially in the most affected area of the country (Region 11).
- UNICEF mobilized prepositioned supplies (i.e., 4,214 school packs, 2,000 tarpaulins, 27 ECCD packs and other supplies) for delivery to the affected school districts in Region XI (Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental).
- UNICEF Education and Child Protection Sections are collaborating to secure Psychosocial Support specialists to assist in organizing psychosocial interventions for the affected teachers, day care workers and children in the day care centers and school sites.

**Child Protection**
- UNICEF provided technical support to DSWD in setting-up the Child Protection Working Group (CPWG) for Region XI and handling of Separated and Unaccompanied children in New Bataan, Compostela Valley. Tracing of relatives to facilitate family reunification is in progress. Children found to be in profound stress are given proper care.
- UNICEF CP Team coordinated with UNFPA on GBV concerns in affected areas and jointly coordinated with DSWD.

**Communication**
- Communication Section produced around 80 photos, 2 press releases and 3 human interest stories that have been sent to New York and Geneva.
- An editorial team is on the field to produce video stories.
Supply and Logistics

Delivered
- 3,500 sets of water kits
- 3,500 sets of hygiene kits
- 6 water bladders (2 - 5,000L, 3 - 6,000L, 1 – 10,000L)
- 1,000 bottles of hyposol
- 150 sets of squat plates and fittings with tarps for latrine construction
- 1,747 pieces of tarpaulin for hygiene shelter
- 40 boxes of Oral Rehydration Salts (ORS)
- 7 sets Child-Friendly Space (CFS) kits
- 10 CFS volunteers kits

Arriving
- 3,500 sets of water kits
- 3,500 sets of hygiene kits
- 12 water bladders (3 - 5,000L, 5 - 6,000L, 4 – 10,000L)
- 350 squat plates and fittings with tarps for latrines construction
- 150 boxes of ORS
- 14,282 IECs materials for safe drinking and hand washing
- 10 sets of CFS kits
- 4,214 sets of school packs
- 2,000 pieces of tarpaulin
- 27 sets of ECCD packs

Needs
- Water and hygiene kits
- Water bladders
- Squat plates
- Kitchen utensils for school feeding (food c/o WFP)
- School tents/ immediate construction of temporary learning spaces
- School and ECCD packs
- Teaching-learning materials

Challenges
- Access to some affected areas due to logistics constraints and road conditions.
- Minimal capacity of Municipal Health Office (MHO) to mobilize delivery of WASH supplies. However, UNICEF has initiated to enhance link with Municipal Social Work and Development Office (MSWDO) and MHO for distribution in different affected areas.
- Establishing new partnerships with the affected local government units (LGUs), at the provincial and municipal levels. UNICEF is fairly new in the area as these have not been included in the current or even in the previous country programmes.
- Education intervention has not been prioritized as a critical emergency response so far. Yet, children constitute a high proportion of the population (about 43%) and are one of the most vulnerable during emergencies. What is life-giving/life-sustaining, especially for the affected pre-school and school-age children, is to have a sense of normalcy through the resumption of learning activities. The re-opening of ECCD centers and schools also provide opportunity to extend critical psychosocial services for them and the affected teachers/ECCD workers.

Human Resources
Total number of Country Office staff pre-emergency: 75 regular + 6 temporary

Current number of country office staff: 74 regular + 9 temporary

The DRR/Emergency Team along with some Cotabato Staff are on the ground supporting UNICEF emergency response in Davao City, while at Manila level, the emergency response team composed of 20 staff are augmenting emergency capacity. A Staff Protocol has been drawn up to serve as a
guideline for staff deployment. It includes, among others a minimum period of 4 weeks for internal deployment and 3 months for standby partners.

Security

The worst-affected areas namely Davao Oriental, Compostela Valley, Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur are all under Security Level System (SLS) 4, meaning the security situation in the area is “substantial” because of the presence of the rebel New People’s Army (NPA). The UNDSS’s analysis is that there are no serious security threats to the UN coming from NPA as they have intimated that they will not intervene in humanitarian operations. The NPA has also declared unilateral ceasefire during the Christmas season.

The recent killing in Davao City of an alleged member of the Jemaya Islamiya (JI), a terrorist organisation with links to Al Qaida, sparked speculation of UN being targeted. Report is unconfirmed but UN staff are instructed to be vigilant.

Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>HAC 2013</th>
<th>Bopha Requirements**</th>
<th>Funds received*</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>3,287,000</td>
<td>1,287,000</td>
<td>200,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>9,550,000</td>
<td>5,650,000</td>
<td>480,000</td>
<td>5,180,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>3,250,000</td>
<td>1,300,000</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>1,100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>6,798,000</td>
<td>4,740,000</td>
<td>190,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>24,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cluster Coordination/</td>
<td>200,000</td>
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<td>150,000</td>
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<td>Programme Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>US$23,609,000</td>
<td>US$12,977,000</td>
<td>US$1,220,000</td>
<td>US$11,757,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* ‘Funds received’ does not include pledges. The total of US$4.59 million is either pledged or being considered in addition to US$1.22 million received.

Next SitRep: 24/12/2012

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