UNICEF and Partners Response to Date

UNICEF has prepositioned 3 sets of diarrhoea treatment for 1,500 diarrhoea cases to the Regional Department of health in Leyte. UNICEF, in partnership with the Department of Health, WHO and others is finalizing guidelines on an acute watery diarrhoea preparedness and response plan for the affected regions.

UNICEF has procured over USD $4 million in supplies including generators, refrigerators, electronic temperature monitoring devices, vaccines, vaccine carriers and cold boxes for use in Tacloban, Eastern Samar, Leyte, Roxas and Cebu.

UNICEF has distributed Read-to-use Therapeutic Food to treat 800 children with severe acute malnutrition over a one month period. UNICEF finalized a strategy with the National Nutrition Council which provides guidance and financial resources to conduct nutrition in emergency interventions in over 1,000 barangays in Region VI, VII and VIII.

Families providing interim care for unaccompanied and separated children are receiving support from UNICEF in the form of a hygiene kit, jerry can, tarpaulin and sleeping mattress to offset additional challenges associated with providing for, and taking care of another child. UNICEF, in collaboration with the Municipal Social Welfare Development Office, Women and Children Protection Desk and port authorities, conducted site visits and assessments of 7 identified entry/exit points for human trafficking in Southern Leyte and Leyte.
Reporting period: 17 - 26 December 2013

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs
According to OCHA, 14.1 million people have been affected by Typhoon Haiyan. The number of people displaced stands at 4.1 million, including 1.7 million children. The most affected population, estimated at 4 million, are located along the coastal and inland areas of Leyte, Samar, Eastern Samar, the northern tip of Cebu and Panay Island. Humanitarian access to the hard-to-reach barangays has been fully restored throughout the typhoon affected regions. The devastation occurred in some of the Philippines’ poorest regions and communities, where prior to the Typhoon more than 40% of children lived in poverty.

| Estimated Affected Population (Note: This information does not include areas that are still for validation.) (Based on figures reported by OCHA on 26 December 2014) |
|---|---|---|
| **Total** | **Female** | **Male** |
| Total Affected Population | 14,100,000 | 7,192,000 | 6,909,000 |
| Children Affected (Under 18) | 5,922,000 | 3,020,220 | 2,901,780 |
| Children Under Five Affected | 1,903,500 | 970,785 | 932,715 |
| Children under 1 year of age Affected | 380,700 | 194,157 | 186,543 |
| Total Displaced Population | 4,100,000 | 2,091,000 | 2,009,000 |
| Children Displaced (Under 18) | 1,722,000 | 878,220 | 843,780 |

Humanitarian leadership and coordination
The Government of Philippines is currently responding to two earlier crises, the Zamboanga Conflict and the Bohol Earthquake, and their support is further required to respond to the impact of the Typhoon. On 10 November, the Government accepted international support to respond to the emergency. The response is being led by the Government of Philippines National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) with local authorities. The Government of the Philippines has identified 171 municipalities in 14 provinces within 6 regions as priority areas for humanitarian response. The Government launched the “Reconstruction Assistance for Yolanda (RAY)” plan on 18 December 2013. The objective of the plan is to restore the economic and social conditions of these areas to their pre-typhoon levels and to a higher level of disaster resilience. The recovery and reconstruction efforts under RAY will cover shelter and resettlement, public infrastructure, education and health services, agriculture, industry and services, local government and social protection. The UN’s 12-month Strategic Response Plan was presented to donors on 10 December, with a total appeal amount of USD $791 million; of which the revised UNICEF appeal component is USD $119,000,569. UNICEF is supporting the Government-led response in coordination with other UN agencies and international and national NGOs. UNICEF, in addition to its programmatic responsibilities, leads the WASH, Child Protection sub-cluster, Education and Nutrition clusters. UNICEF is also an active partner in the health cluster, which is led by WHO.

Humanitarian Strategy
UNICEF, with government and other partners, has identified strategic priorities and goals which include the provision of necessary materials, services and environments for safe and healthy living until reconstruction takes place. UNICEF’s roles within these priorities, working closely with all partners, is to prevent deterioration in the pre-existing levels of mortality, morbidity and malnutrition, and provide shelter and support to displaced populations, especially children. UNICEF has established a main office hub in Tacloban with an outreach post in Guiuan, and Roxas City and a logistics hub in Cebu. The established offices include cluster coordination and information management capacity at decentralized levels in all four clusters (WASH, Education, Child protection and Nutrition).
Reporting period: 17 - 26 December 2013

UNICEF Actions to date

Nutrition
To date, Nutrition cluster partners have completed malnutrition screening for over 49,000 children under 5 years of age in Regions VI, VII, & VIII. Of the children screened, 1,490 have been found to be acutely malnourished, with 172 severe and 1,329 moderately malnourished.

Outpatient treatment programs for children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) are currently operational in Tacloban City, Dulag, Palo, Tanuan and Tolosa. Inpatient facilities for the treatment for SAM with medical complications are operating in Tacloban, Tolosa and Ormoc City. In Samar, the treatment of acute malnutrition is located at two inpatient sites, one in Basey and the other in Guiuan. Mobile health units, operated by ACF and SCI are following up with identified cases of malnourished children in municipalities that do not currently have treatment sites.

Blanket supplementary feeding has reached 39,000 children aged 6-59 months in Region VI and VII. In addition, 109 pregnant and lactating women were identified with acute malnutrition and were provided with supplementary foods.

Infant and young child feeding (IYCF) services have been provided to over 5,000 pregnant and lactating women and caregivers through the Barangay Nutrition Scholars network, 40 mobile counsellors and 21 mother and baby friendly spaces. The expansion of mother and baby friendly tents and IYCF counselling is expected in the new-year as partners scale up activities and Barangay Nutrition Scholars extend their community activities on a larger scale.

UNICEF has distributed Read-to-use Therapeutic Food to treat 800 children with severe acute malnutrition over a one month period. UNICEF finalized a strategy with the National Nutrition Council which provides guidance and financial resources to conduct nutrition in emergency interventions in over 1,000 barangays in Region VI, VII and VIII. This strategy is vital in order to reach the targeted number of children and pregnant and lactating women to which UNICEF has committed to over the next year for the Yolanda response.

Child Protection
The City Social Welfare and Development Office in partnership with UNICEF and NGOs operating Child Friendly Spaces in Tacloban City have organized a Children’s Festival on 27th December for 2,000 children, together with their families and caregivers. The festive day includes multiple events specifically designed for children to assist in their recovery and healing following Typhoon Yolanda, with community support and involvement; and to raise awareness about children’s rights and services.

UNICEF continues to provide technical and logistical support to national Department of Social Welfare and Development social workers deployed to Tacloban to augment capacities for the evaluation and follow-up of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) documented using RapidFTR. Families providing interim care for UASC are also receiving support from UNICEF in the form of a hygiene kit, jerry can, tarpaulin and sleeping mattress to offset additional challenges associated with providing for, and taking care of another child.
UNICEF, in collaboration with UNHCR and UNFPA held a briefing session for 38 Women and Children Protection Desk female police officers recently deployed to Tacloban from other parts of the Philippines on key child protection concerns, including UASC, prevention of family separation, exploitation, abuse and trafficking. To date, 72 UASC have been documented and have been enrolled in follow-up care services in the hardest hit municipalities of Region VIII. 

UNICEF, in collaboration with the Municipal Social Welfare Development Office, Women and Children Protection Desk and port authorities, conducted site visits and assessments of 7 identified entry/exit points for human trafficking in Southern Leyte (Liloan, Baybay City and San Ricardo Seaports) and Leyte (Ormoc City, Bato City, Isabel and Palompon Seaports). Recommendations from the findings are being submitted to the Inter-Agency Council on Anti-Trafficking. Some of the recommendations include: the need to establish and operationalize help desks and referral pathways and referral services, the need to strengthen anti-trafficking help desks for prevention and response, and the need for the deployment of surge capacity female police officers in the identified entry/exit points of concern.

In Roxas, the gender-based violence (GBV) sub-cluster has prepared a draft referral mechanism with options for survivors of GBV to safely access appropriate medical and other specialised services. This referral mechanism is also being considered by the Child Protection sub-cluster for cases involving violence, exploitation and abuse of children. The Capiz arm of the Philippines National Police, Women and Child Desk are in the process of compiling data from 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 on GBV and children in contact with the law. The data should be able to provide trends over the past three years to reduce risks of GBV and provide appropriate responses to incidents. Since 8 November, 24 cases of GBV have been reported in Region VI and 16 cases in Capiz.

On 23rd December, the City Social Welfare and Development, in collaboration with UNICEF and NGO partners, organized Christmas Special activities in two Barangays in Roxas City involving approximately 1,200 children. In Banita, Child Friendly Spaces activities reached 300 children and in Culasi (in association with the local primary school) 900 children. UNICEF led several games with children and led the distribution of 'Christmas packages' that included school stationary items and notebooks.

In Roxas City, through several key Child Friendly Spaces events with Child Fund, Save the Children, the Department of Social Welfare and Development and Barangay women leaders, 2,000 copies of the publication *Key messages for caregivers in a sudden onset emergency* have been distributed. These messages are estimated to reach 10,000 caregivers and provide 'tips' on how to identify and address the signs of distress in children after a sudden onset emergency, as well as tips on how to address these needs, and, how to better protect children during and after an emergency.

In Guiuan, a one-day capacity development and orientation workshop was organised by UNICEF and officials from Guiuan's Social Welfare and Development Office. The workshop covered issues on child protection in emergencies, the identification of UASC and Child Friendly Spaces with participation from 54 Barangay representatives (primarily
day care workers/secretaries) out of a total of 60 barangays. During the workshop representatives reported cases from their barangays of child neglect, family separation and physical/emotional abuse. Representatives also reported an increase in children begging on the streets, cases of children being left in temporary care of relatives and cases of children and families gambling. All barangay representatives reported concerns over the distressing impact that the typhoon has had on children. UNICEF is providing technical and material support to the local Social Welfare and Development Office to address these protection concerns.

**Health**

To date, over 1,000 cases of diarrhoea have been reported in the affected areas. UNICEF has prepositioned 3 sets of diarrhoea treatment for 1,500 diarrhoea cases to the Regional Department of health in Leyte. UNICEF, in partnership with the Department of Health, WHO and others is finalizing guidelines on an acute watery diarrhoea preparedness and response plan for the affected regions. These guidelines include: disease surveillance, clinical management, community health promotion and outreach, WASH promotion and interventions and laboratory diagnostics. The Department of Health, UNICEF and WHO will conduct trainings for regional, provincial and district health workers, on the establishment of diarrhoea treatment centers, as well clinical management and treatment of diarrhoea cases in the most affected regions.

The Department of Health has released a letter stating that the mass vaccination campaign has ended in the affected regions, and the focus now is on restoring routine immunizations. A planning workshop on the restoration of routine immunizations is scheduled for early January with health facilities and will be conducted by the Department of Health, with UNICEF & WHO.

Cold chain assessments by UNICEF, WHO and the Department of Health have completed. The assessments covered health facilities in Northern Cebu, Iloilo, Antique, Capiz, Tacloban, Leyte, East Samar, Biliran and Western Samar. A total of 105 Rural Health Unit’s, 7 Provincial stores, 4 city stores and 3 regional cold rooms were assessed. The assessments reported major losses of vaccines and syringes in health facilities in North Leyte Province (including in Tacloban City) as well as in Eastern Samar. The assessments found that the majority of refrigerators used in the rural health units as well as the existing generators were not suitable for proper vaccine storage. The estimated cost of restoring the cold chain in the affected regions is $8.191 million in the short term to enable routine immunizations in the affected regions. UNICEF continues to support the Department of Health in restoring routine immunization programs through the prepositioning of stocks and the reestablishment of the cold chain in priority areas. UNICEF has procured over USD $4 million in supplies including generators, refrigerators, electronic temperature monitoring devices, vaccines, vaccine carriers and cold boxes for use in Tacloban, Eastern Samar, Leyte, Roxas and Cebu. Over the longer-term, UNICEF plans to improve the cold chain; making it more disaster-resilient, and to meet future routine immunization needs of the population in the typhoon affected areas.

**Education**

Over 50,000 children are benefiting from UNICEF’s delivery of learning materials and supplies, in Leyte, Samar and Roxas. Approximately 20,000 children have benefited in Leyte, Samar and Roxas from UNICEF’s establishment of 193 classrooms. These classrooms were made functional either through the repair of roofing with tarpaulins, or the setting up of tents for temporary learning spaces.

**WASH**

UNICEF has provided water kits, water treatment products, bladders and home storage containers for some 575,000 affected people across Eastern Samar, Leyte and Capiz; toilet slabs and portable toilets for 90,000 people in Capiz, Eastern Samar and Leyte, and hygiene kits for 206,000 people across Eastern Samar, Leyte, Capiz, Iloilo, and Cebu.

**Human Resources**

As of 26 December, UNICEF has deployed 86 surge staff to the Philippines, including cluster coordinators in WASH, Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility, Nutrition and Education, along with Information Management support. Of the 86 surge staff deployed, 76 staff members are on the ground in the typhoon affected areas including in Tacloban, Cebu, Guiuan and Roxas City.
**Funding**

The Philippines Typhoon Haiyan Strategic Response Plan (Nov 2013-Nov 2014) was presented to donors in Manila on 10 December 2013. It outlines a plan for a scaled up response that addresses the humanitarian and early recovery needs of the affected population for a period of twelve months. UNICEF’s revised requirements total US$119 million (out of the total inter-agency appeal for US$791 million) for the Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda response.

UNICEF’s total appeal to support crisis-affected children and women across the Philippines, including those impacted by Typhoon Haiyan, the Bohol Earthquake, Central Mindanao and the Zamboanga conflict is now US$154 million.

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**Next SitRep: 2 January 2014**

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