

# PHILIPPINES : TYPHOON HAIYAN

## EXTERNAL UPDATE #9

### 12 December 2013



UNHCR / R.Rocamora

#### Highlights

*An increasing number of people are now returning to their places of origin. According to the Government, 4 million people remain displaced including some 22,000 persons in 386 evacuation centers as of 11 December.*

- UNHCR relief supplies, provided in support of the work of the clusters in charge of shelter and non-food items, have reached some **183,000** people in areas most affected by Typhoon Haiyan.
- UNHCR has distributed around 6,000 solar lanterns to affected families to help improve their physical security.
- In Tacloban and Guiuan, UNHCR and HelpAge have started to assess the situation of elderly persons to ensure that their needs are included in assistance programmes.
- The Protection Cluster has been set up in Borongan, co- led by OHCHR with the Government's Department of Social Welfare and Development and in cooperation with UNHCR.

#### Funding

UNHCR's current requirements have been increased to **USD 19.2 million**, following a second request by the Emergency Relief Coordinator for additional plastic sheeting and blankets. The funding allows provision of relief items and implementation of the activities under the Protection Cluster.

Confirmed contributions	USD
Norway	975,638
CERF	3,002,469
Japan	2,000,000
Republic of Korea	200,000
Brazil	150,000
PSFR	3,063,449
<b>Total confirmed</b>	<b>9,391,556</b>

**Current level of funding : 49 %**

#### Protection Cluster

The overall objective of the Protection Cluster is to strengthen the protection environment of those affected, ensuring non-discriminatory and equitable access to basic and protective services in coordination and cooperation with the Government and key protection organizations, under the direct leadership of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). The Protection Cluster works to mainstream protection principles in various cluster activities, while identifying /addressing protection needs of displaced people with a focus on those with specific needs, such as female/child headed households, older people, indigenous people and minority groups, persons with disabilities as well as communities in remote areas.

The Protection Cluster is established in 7 locations—Manila, Tacloban, Oromoc, Guiuan, Roxas, Cebu and Borongan.

#### Tacloban:

- The Protection Cluster has started the training of police women and provided material support to the women and children's desk of the Government.
- Promotion of equal access to aid, including those situated in remote locations, is being addressed through the ongoing inter-cluster coordination.
- Out of 138 barangays, 30 barangays have been categorized as "no-build zones" by the Government. The City of Tacloban has requested UNHCR to provide family tents to the "can-build zones" barangays to enable the people in evacuation centers to start returning to their places of origin.
- The mapping of services in the city and surrounding municipalities has been completed and identified the need to established women friendly spaces in two areas of Western Leyte.

## Ormoc:

- The Protection Cluster through its local partner (CFSI) has started protection monitoring . It was observed that a number of people with specific needs, including the elderly and people with disabilities remain without shelter assistance. Following the monitoring, distribution of relief items has started to many such families in Matag-ob municipality.
- Key protection messages on the available services have been prepared. The messages are aimed to inform the affected communities that assistance is available without discrimination and with due consideration to specific needs of vulnerable groups.
- The Protection Cluster's partners such as IsraAid, World Vision and Canadian Red Cross initiated psychosocial activities for children in schools. Training of teachers and community volunteers is ongoing to support children to return to normal life and safe learning environment.

## Guiuan:

- UNHCR together with IOM distributed solar lanterns to 103 families who had moved to the tent city. In addition, solar lanterns are being installed in communal tents.
- To address a possible risk of trafficking, DSWD has introduced the requirement for adults traveling with children who are not their own to have a certificate that ascertains the relationship with the child.

## Roxas:

- UNHCR took part in a joint mission with DSWD, UNICEF, IOM and IFRC to Dulangan Island, Capiz, following the report that about 150 families were requested to relocate from their home to the mainland due to safety concerns. Based on the discussion with the community and the local authorities, it was decided to distribute tents to the families whose houses were totally damaged while they prepare for the relocation.

## Cebu:

- The Protection Cluster has been established in Cebu to assist DSWD in addressing protection issues and providing humanitarian assistance to the affected communities.
- UNHCR has started the distribution of 500 solar lanterns and other basic relief items to the most affected population.



Residents of Barangay 89 await for the distribution of solar lanterns from the UNHCR in Tacloban/UNHCR/R.Rocamore/December 2013

## Airlift—summary of items sent

Items that are reached Cebu on flights and trucks from Cotabato include: some 95,000 plastic sheets, 10,000 tents, 78,000 blankets, 13,000 kitchen sets, 30,000 jerry cans as well as 9,000 solar lanterns. Additional 50,000 plastic sheets and 30,000 blankets requested by the Emergency Relief Coordinator are in the pipeline.

## Aid distribution

UNHCR is cooperating with the government, the shelter and logistics clusters, and other agencies as well as bilateral aid providers, to ensure that aid effectively reaches the affected populations and in particular those with specific needs.

To date, UNHCR estimates having assisted around **183,000 people** including in Leyte, Eastern Samar, Northern Cebu, Villaba Ormoc, Salcedo, Sulangan, Batayan Island, Cebu, Guiuan, and Tacloban. UNHCR assistance includes tents, blankets, jerry cans, plastic sheets, kitchen sets, mosquito nets and sleeping mats.

## Staff deployments/re-deployments

A total of 55 UNHCR staff have been deployed / re-deployed to support the emergency response.

In total, UNHCR currently has: 29 staff in Manila, 10 staff in Cebu, 19 staff in Tacloban, 6 staff in Ormoc, 7 staff in Guiuan, 8 staff in Roxas and 2 staff in Borongan.

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