



# PHILIPPINES AND REPUBLIC OF PALAU – TYPHOON

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013, DECEMBER 7, 2012

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**456**

Deaths associated with Typhoon Bopha in the Philippines

Government of the Philippines (GPH) National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) – December 7, 2012

**5.3 million**

People affected by Typhoon Bopha in the Philippines

NDRRMC – December 7, 2012

**213,469**

People residing in evacuation centers in the Philippines

NDRRMC – December 7, 2012

**28,587**

Houses damaged by Typhoon Bopha in the Philippines

NDRRMC – December 7, 2012

**350**

People displaced by Typhoon Bopha in RoP  
U.N. – December 5, 2012

**150**

Houses damaged or destroyed by Typhoon Bopha in RoP

U.N. – December 5, 2012

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Starting on December 2, Typhoon Bopha—known as Pablo in the Philippines—tracked south of the Republic of Palau (RoP) and across the Philippines, bringing winds of up to Category 5 strength and causing widespread damage.
- USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) deployed several staff members to the Philippines, RoP, and Guam to track the storm as it moved through the region, coordinate assistance efforts, and conduct assessments in affected areas.
- On December 5, 2012, the U.S. Embassy in Manila, Philippines, and the U.S. Embassy in Koror, RoP, issued disaster declarations for the effects of Typhoon Bopha.

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR TYPHOON BOPHA

USAID/OFDA Funding for RoP	\$100,000
USAID/OFDA Funding for the Philippines	\$100,000
<b>\$200,000</b>	
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- After developing southeast of the Federated States of Micronesia as a tropical depression, Typhoon Bopha tracked south of RoP’s Angaur island starting on December 2 while building super typhoon-level intensity, bringing wind speeds of up to 155 miles per hour to RoP, downing trees and other vegetation, and damaging basic infrastructure, according to the U.N. In outlying island areas, Typhoon Bopha caused a storm surge bringing ocean waters several hundred feet inland, damaging roads and dispersing debris. Initial USAID/OFDA and U.S. Embassy in Koror assessments found damage in the islands of Peleliu and Angaur, as well as more remote areas of Babeldaob island. On December 4, RoP President Johnson Toribiong declared a state of emergency and announced plans to provide \$10 million for immediate emergency needs and cleanup efforts.
- On December 4, Typhoon Bopha made landfall in the Philippines, bringing heavy rains and strong winds to areas of Mindanao and Visayas islands, as well as Palawan Province in the western Philippines. As of December 7, Typhoon Bopha had caused 456 deaths, left more than 530 people missing, and affected approximately 5.3 million people across 27 provinces, according to NDRRMC. Local media also report that Bopha had destroyed an estimated 10,000 hectares—or nearly 24 percent—of the country’s 42,000 hectares of banana farms as of December 7.

## RoP

### *Current Situation*

- In the days following the storm, RoP experienced agricultural damage, power outages, and communications disruptions. Areas of RoP with extensive damage include Angaur and Peleliu islands, as well as Melekeok, Ngard, Ngchesar, and Ngilwai states. Other areas of the country experienced minimal or no damage. Electric, water, and sewage services in some areas of the country remained disrupted as of December 5, according to the U.N.
- By December 6, health facilities and local businesses in Koror city—where approximately 70 percent of the RoP population resides—and the airport in Airai had begun to reopen, and roads, bridges, and causeways were largely functional, with local populations beginning debris clearing activities.

### *U.S. Government (USG) Assessments*

- Between December 3 and 4, the USAID/OFDA principal regional advisor (PRA) for East Asia and the Pacific and staff from the U.S. Embassy in Koror conducted assessments of affected areas, including in RoP's southernmost islands of Angaur and Peleliu and northeastern areas of Babeldaob island, where a storm surge damaged or destroyed approximately 30 houses. The PRA noted early recovery needs, including cleanup support, temporary shelter materials for displaced individuals, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance, particularly in rural areas and outlying islands.

### *USG Assistance*

- On December 5, 2012, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Thomas E. Daley declared a disaster due to the effects of Typhoon Bopha. In response, USAID/OFDA provided \$100,000 for the Palau Red Cross (PRC) for emergency support for typhoon-affected populations. Based on USAID/OFDA assessments, USAID/OFDA funding will support cleanup efforts and the distribution of relief supplies.

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## THE PHILIPPINES

### *Current Situation*

- In the Philippines, Typhoon Bopha damaged or destroyed nearly 29,000 houses, as well as bridges and roads. The storm also disrupted power, communications, and water infrastructure in many affected areas, according to NDRRMC. The storm caused significant agricultural damage in Mindanao, particularly to banana, coconut, vegetable, and rubber plantations. The typhoon also impacted crops and livelihoods in Lanao del Sur Province in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, according to the U.N.
- The effects of the storm are particularly significant in Mindanao's Davao Region, where the typhoon first made landfall and the majority of affected people—4.7 million, or 88 percent of the total affected population—reside, according to NDRRMC. Some of the areas of Davao experiencing damage were also affected in December 2011 following Tropical Storm Washi.
- The GPH and local government authorities are responding to the needs of affected populations by distributing food and emergency relief commodities, providing medical assistance, and clearing debris, according to NDRRMC. In Compostela Valley Province, local authorities hired fishing boats to transfer food, water, medicine, and relief commodities to affected populations in areas cut off by the storm. In addition, the GPH and U.N. are conducting a joint assessment of affected areas.

### *USG Assessments*

- On December 6, USAID/OFDA began conducting a series of assessments in typhoon-affected areas of Davao's Compostela Valley and Davao del Norte provinces, and Negros Oriental Province in the Visayas. In areas assessed, the USAID/OFDA team noted some signs of flash flooding and wind damage to crops and buildings, as well as continued power outages, but also observed that most primary roads remained open, and that populations had begun cleanup efforts.

- In New Bataan Municipality in Compostela Valley, the assessment team noted significant damage, estimating that the typhoon had damaged or destroyed up to 60 percent of homes and buildings in the municipality, with structures remaining intact filled with mud. GPH, local authorities, and businesses are providing food, safe drinking water, health care, and medicine in New Bataan.
- On December 7, USAID/OFDA staff traveled to Davao Oriental Province, where approximately 70 miles of coastline have sustained significant damage, particularly in areas where storm surges took place. In Baganga, Boston, and Cateel municipalities, central town areas were nearly entirely destroyed, and all three municipalities lacked electricity. In addition, road access from the south remains severed. GPH engineering assets are currently working to restore roads. In addition, the Philippines Navy has begun delivering food rations to affected areas.

#### *USG Assistance*

- On December 5, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Brian L. Goldbeck declared a disaster due to the effects of Typhoon Bopha in the Philippines. In response, USAID/OFDA provided an initial \$100,000 to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) for WASH support and the provision of emergency relief commodities.
- USAID/OFDA is currently planning additional assistance to benefit typhoon-affected populations in Mindanao and the Visayas islands, prioritizing areas sustaining major damage.

## **OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

- On December 11, the U.N. plans to launch an annex to the 2013 Humanitarian Action Plan (HAP) for the Philippines to address humanitarian needs resulting from Typhoon Bopha. The U.N. plans to include projects for the typhoon response as a sub-set of the 2013 HAP. U.N. agencies are already coordinating with national and local government counterparts, according to the U.N.
- Several international humanitarian donor agencies have announced plans to provide assistance to typhoon-affected populations. On December 7, the Government of the Republic of Korea pledged to provide approximately \$200,000 to the Philippines for relief supplies.
- The Government of Australia plans to provide \$5 million for relief commodities, including sleeping mats, water containers, and hygiene kits, and 1,000 metric tons of emergency food assistance for displaced and vulnerable households.
- On December 6, the Government of Canada (GoC) announced plans to provide \$250,000 to support the Philippine Red Cross to address the emergency needs of approximately 50,000 people affected by Typhoon Bopha. GoC support will include WASH assistance and provision of relief commodities.

### **USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR RoP & THE PHILIPPINES PROVIDED IN FY 2013<sup>1</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
PRC	Logistics and Relief Commodities	RoP	\$100,000
CRS	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Philippines	\$100,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$200,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO RoP AND THE PHILIPPINES IN FY 2013</b>			<b>\$200,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of December 7, 2012.

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## **PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION**

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for response efforts in RoP and the Philippines can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at  
<http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>