

# SUPPORT TO TYPHOON RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE IN THE VISAYAS



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME  
Philippines



DEBRIS  
MANAGEMENT



EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT  
AND  
LIVELIHOODS



RESTORING  
GOVERNMENT  
SERVICES



DISASTER  
RISK REDUCTION



Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) hit one of the poorest parts of the Philippines, first landing in Guiuan, where 60% of people lived below the poverty line before the super storm. Restoring livelihoods quickly will be critical to stop people falling deeper into poverty. Helping people diversify their sources of income, and to add value to what they produce will also build their resilience against future shocks.

Pictured are devastated coconut plantations, credit: UNDP, Lesley Wright

February 2014

## HIGHLIGHTS

- 25,000 vulnerable people have secured temporary jobs clearing debris – almost half are women. In-line with government policy, the workers earn a minimum wage. They are selected in coordination with local authorities and community leaders to ensure that the job opportunities are available to those that need it most. They are paid weekly, and each person is employed for at least 15 days.
- 598 vulnerable people (200 women) are currently enrolled in the skills training programme focused on carpentry, masonry, electrical and plumbing. This will enable them to develop the skills and competencies to rebuild, repair and eventually rehabilitate their own shelters, and other damaged community infrastructures.
- The Typhoon felled around 33 million coconut trees. Plans are underway to employ thousands of vulnerable people to bring the trunks for processing into building materials at eight mobile sawmills. The challenge will be stockpiling enough timber for long-term use by an emerging group of small wood-processing businesses, ensuring livelihoods for thousands of families. The timber will perish if not stockpiled properly in the next four months.

- The storm also knocked out power services, which will take months, if not years to restore in some areas. UNDP aims to provide renewable energy sources to some of the affected areas to help kick-start local economies. Already, 2,000 solar lanterns are being distributed to remote communities.

## THE SITUATION IN NUMBERS

### 14.1 million

People affected by the super storm  
(National DRR and Management Council)

### 68%

Percentage of the affected population reliant on farming, livestock and agriculture labour pre-Yolanda.

(Multi Cluster Needs Assessment)

### 6 – 8 Months

This is how long most agricultural households report it will take to recover.

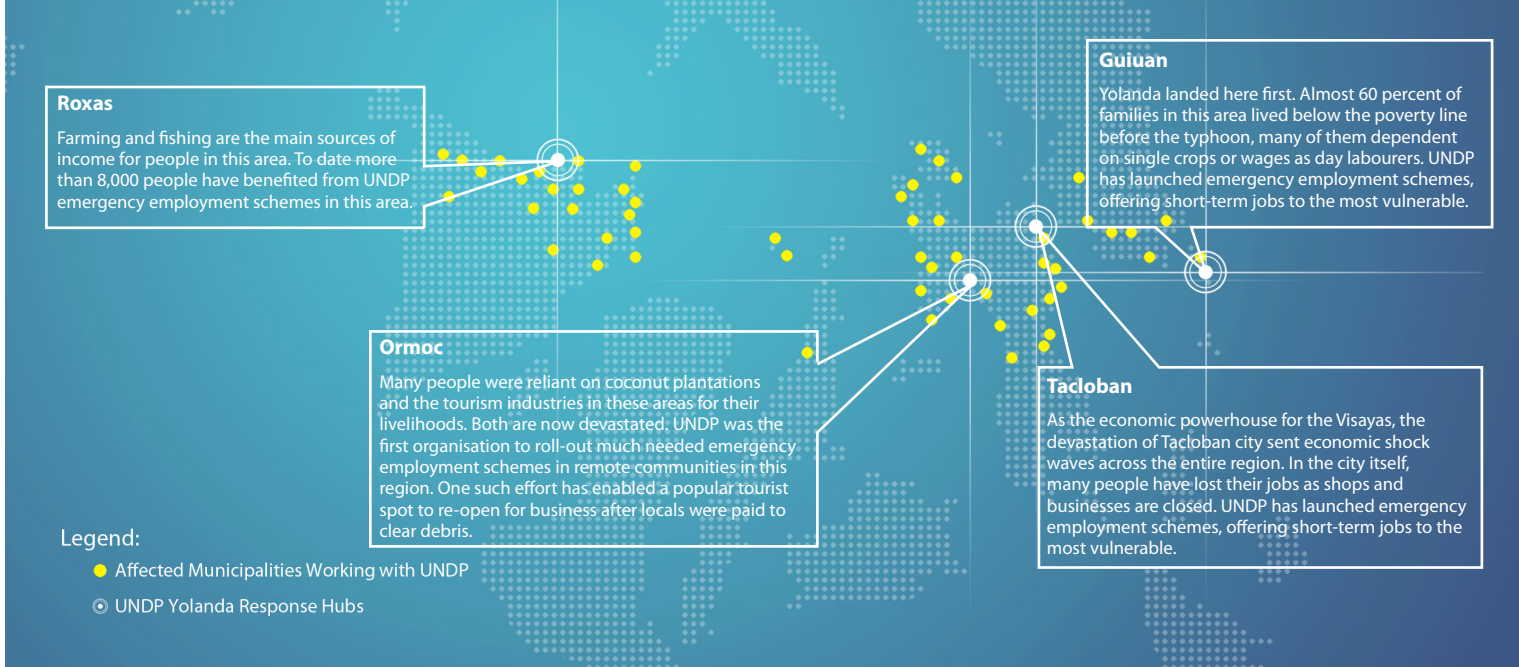
(Multi Cluster Needs Assessment)

Thanks to our donors:



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## UNDP & PARTNERS RESPOND

Restoring livelihoods is at the heart of UNDP's recovery support to the Visayas. Our work in this area started immediately and has a long-term vision. Our focus is on helping some of the most vulnerable people avoid falling deeper into poverty, especially women, remote upland and indigenous communities.

**Immediately (0-6 months):** Within weeks of the crisis, UNDP offered thousands of people (40% women) emergency employment as a quick measure to help stabilize their incomes. Our aim is to reach 160,000 people within the first year. They are largely employed to remove and recycle debris. We are also helping local economies get moving again by restoring community infrastructure, and by assisting small businesses with start-up grants. Also, with around 33 million coconut trees damaged or felled by the typhoon, we are creating income opportunities through the processing and reuse of windfall lumber.

**Medium-term (6-12 months):** While we continue our emergency employment effort, we are also looking at measures to help people diversify their incomes, thereby building their resilience to future shocks. This will involve a market survey to identify viable economic activities; and training vulnerable people so that they can seize the new opportunities emerging as the affected areas rebuild. It will involve adding value to local products. Special attention will be given to women through support to 100 women's self-help groups.

**Long-term (12-36 months):** In recent years the Philippines has seen poverty rise in rural areas as more frequent and severe disasters routinely wipe out livelihoods. Our focus is on supporting the government to enable people, especially those in rural areas, to diversify and protect their livelihoods. This will involve supporting the government to develop new policy frameworks and social protection schemes, enabling vulnerable people to build their resilience against future shocks.

## PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

### What

With a focus on some of the worst affected places, our area-based programme will help manage and reuse waste, restore government services and vulnerable peoples' livelihoods, while boosting communities' resilience against future shocks.



### How

The first and largest part of our work will focus on meeting immediate needs over the first six months. The focus will then shift to building capacities, systems and livelihoods over the longer-term.

### Where

With four hubs on-the-ground, UNDP is working in 54 of the worst hit municipalities across all the affected regions.

### Partners

All our efforts support the Government's Reconstruction Assistance on Yolanda Programme and we are working in close cooperation with government at national, regional and local levels. UNDP is also partnering with an active civil society and private sector.

### Funding

UNDP's Typhoon Haiyan recovery and resilience programme received funding of US\$12 million from the Government of Japan, Ecuador, Russian Federation, the Central Emergency Response Fund and UNDP. Out of the total gap of US\$52 million, UNDP requires US\$35 million to meet the urgent needs of the devastated communities who are now trying to rebuild their life.

Thanks to our donors:



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