

Disaster Risk Reduction



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

Duration	:	Three (3) years
Proposed Budget	:	US\$ 2,728,500
Location	:	Eastern and Western Visayas + Relevant National Level Activities
Beneficiaries	:	LGUs, NDRRMC, NGOs and CSOs
Project Execution	:	UNDP, in partnership with LGUs and NGOs

Project Context

In the early morning of 8 November 2013, typhoon Yolanda (internationally called Haiyan), made landfall in the eastern Visayas region of the Philippines. With winds up to 250 kph sweeping through the region, accompanied by a storm surge of up to 5 m, the typhoon caused wide spread damage and losses. As of 10 December, 5,924 people were reported killed and 1,779 were missing. Along the north-west trajectory of the typhoon, a total of 14 million people across nine of the country's poorest provinces were affected. More than 1.1 m houses were destroyed. The eastern coasts of Samar, Eastern Samar and Leyte were among the worst affected. The city of Tacloban, the fifth fastest growing urban center in the country, recorded the highest loss of lives and property. The national government, the local government units, national and international NGOs, relief teams from more than 20 countries, and the UN launched a large humanitarian response to the disaster. Although the affected communities have already begun their own recovery efforts with the limited resources available, the magnitude of the disaster is so severe that it will take several years for them to recover fully.

While providing immediate support to early recovery efforts in the affected areas, UNDP support is designed to also lay the foundations for long-term recovery, resilience and sustainable development. It will be implemented through an area-based approach that takes into consideration specific needs in different affected locations. The three main pillars of UNDP support include: support to livelihood restoration and economic revitalization; support to governance at the local level, and disaster risk reduction. The programme areas include the provinces of Eastern Samar, Samar, Leyte, Biliran, Cebu, Palawan, Aklan, Capiz and Iloilo.

The Philippines' disaster risk reduction context is characterized by the following key features:

- As it is exposed to a plethora of natural hazards, the disaster risk is high almost across the entire country, and is characterized primarily by frequent medium scale disaster events and at least one major event every decade.
- There is significant technical capacity on different aspects of disaster risk reduction spread across government departments, academic institutions and professional associations. The country has decades of experience on implementing disaster risk reduction policies and programmes at the national and local levels.
- The Philippines has an evolved institutional arrangement to deal with disaster risk, especially at the national level. However, linkages with local level systems as far as managing disaster risk remain highly uneven. Many local government units (LGUs) and provincial governments have shown initiative and have taken innovative steps to address all aspects of disaster risk management.

The post-Yolanda recovery work is clearly an opportunity to renew engagement on disaster risk reduction issues not just in the affected areas but also in the entire country as a whole, and both at the national policy level and in terms of local level programming. In the short and medium term, the recovery programme offers specific opportunities to implement risk reduction activities. The experience gained from this effort can inform the development of a larger national scale disaster risk reduction effort.

Project Objectives

1. To inform post-Yolanda recovery efforts with disaster risk assessments, with a view to building disaster resilience
2. To strengthen Early Warning Systems (EWS), including community level response mechanisms for hydro-meteorological hazards in the Visayas
3. To integrate disaster risk reduction concerns in the post-disaster recovery of all main sectors
4. To implement hazard specific mitigation measures

Project Activities

- Collate a general overview of disaster risk in the affected areas based on existing risk assessments, and present easily understandable and usable disaster risk information
- Systematic documentation of sequence of events (e.g. issue warnings at different stages, communication to different administrative levels, and community actions) related to typhoon Yolanda
- Preparation of an Action Plan to strengthen different elements of the EWS in the immediate, short and medium term
- Partner with community-based organizations (CBOs) to conduct training programmes in the most vulnerable barangays (villages)
- Evaluate the ongoing sectoral programmes -- such as mangrove restoration and public works -- and identify specific opportunities to reorient/strengthen these programmes in conjunction with the other recovery efforts (e.g. cash-for-work programmes)

Project Impact

- Increased local level capacities as far as understanding and managing disaster risks
- Established systems for effective EWS for all hydro-meteorological hazards
- Increased confidence among affected populations at the local level in the post-typhoon recovery activities
- Strengthened systems for LGUs to use risk information in local level development planning and implementation

INDICATIVE BUDGET

Project Activities	(US\$)
• Risk Assessments	250,000
• Early Warning Systems	200,000
• Community-based training	100,000
• Community mitigation activities	2, 178,500
TOTAL	2,728,500

Implementation modality

The project will be executed by UNDP directly with financial, technical and programming support. Project implementation will be carried out by local authorities, NDRRMC and non-government organizations (NGOs).

Monitoring and Evaluation

UNDP will conduct close monitoring and evaluation using its M&E methods. An M&E plan will be developed with clear indicators for each stage of the activity, paying full attention to the involvement and support to gender, youth, and marginalized groups.

For further information contact:

United Nations Development Programme
One United Nations Plaza, 20th Floor
New York, NY 10017

Yuchengco Tower 1 RCBC Plaza, 30th Floor
Ayala, Makati
www.undp.org/cpr
December 2013



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*