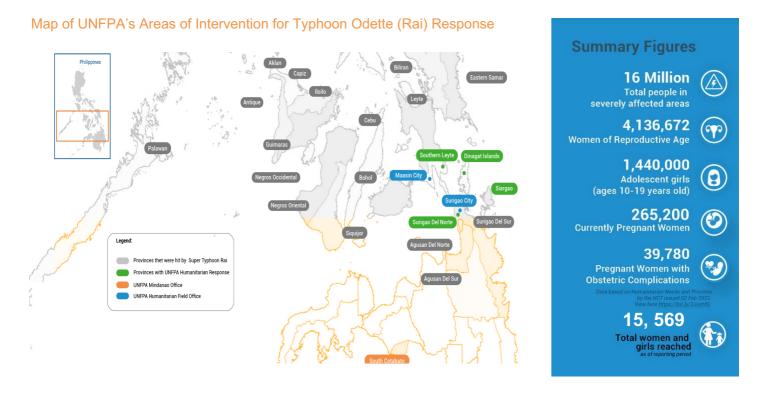


SUPER TYPHOON ODETTE RESPONSE

Situation Report 7

30 April 2022

UNFPA Philippines produce this report in collaboration with its key humanitarian partners. This report covers the period April 1- 30 2022



Highlights

- UNFPA continues to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable, including women and adolescent girls in typhoon-affected areas, ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) care and information, and protection from gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse.
- Tropical Storm Agaton hit the Visayas and Caraga regions on April 10, 2022. As of April 27th, there were 212 deceased, 132 missing¹, and 570 injuries recorded.²
- After a high positivity rate of 49% in January, the weekly COVID-19 positivity rate decreased to 1.2% by April 24th (1771 cases per week)³
- UNFPA supported the deployment of regional and provincial Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) teams to Baybay and Abuyog in Southern Leyte in response to Tropical Storm Agaton, including members trained by UNFPA on GBV fundamentals / MHPSS prior to deployment.
- On April 5-6, 2022, UNFPA, WFP, IOM, and partners hosted a delegation from the Australian Embassy to visit Siargao Island response activities funded by the Australian Government.¹

Funding contributions from:





Situation Overview

More than four months since Super Typhoon Rai (local name Odette) ravaged the Philippines on December 16 2021, its devastation is still apparent in the country's 11 regions with Surigao del Norte, Dinagat Island, Southern Leyte, Bohol and Cebu being the most affected. Strong winds and torrential rain severely affected over 11 million people, damaging over 2 million homes,⁴ and initially displacing over 600,000 individuals.⁵ The storm hit weeks before the January surge in COVID-19 cases, amplifying the needs on the ground and complicating response efforts of humanitarian actors.

To date, the response is on-going and many essential services have not been reestablished. Families continue to be displaced and are living in evacuation centers, in friend or relative homes, or in substandard shelters exacerbating protection risks and potential exposure to GBV. Many of the health care facilities continue to be non-functional, or in process of being reconstructed, requiring many to travel further for services and pay more for transportation. This barrier directly influences how and if women and girls access care, and can contribute to increased morbidity and mortality.

The situation was made even more difficult with the arrival of Tropical Storm Megi (local name Agaton) starting on April 9, 2022 and lasting for several days, across many of the same areas affected by Super Typhoon Odette in the Visayas Region (Southern Leyte) and in parts of Mindanao (Dinagat and Surigao del Norte). A series of landslides and severe flooding buried portions of Baybay and Abuyog towns, causing significant loss of life and property. The storm cut transportation routes (water and land), power and phone networks, and affected almost 2 million people, leaving an additional 250,000 displaced⁶ across the region. The appearance of a tropical storm of this magnitude, at this time of year, is indicative of the shocks being experienced due to climate change in the Philippines.

The Commission on Election (COMELEC) issued a resolution on the prohibition of any public official or employee to release, disburse or expend public funds, effective March 25, 2022 until May 8, 2022. This prevented government agencies from directly disbursing cash, food, and material assistance to survivors of GBV, especially at crisis centers. The GBV Sub-Cluster, working with the Protection Cluster, continued its advocacy for the principles of Centrality of Protection, Do No Harm and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP).



UNFPA field team in Southern Leyte supported a Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) intervention for displaced families affected by Tropical Storm Agaton in April 27, 2022

Humanitarian Needs

- More than 12,000 people remain displaced after Super Typhoon Odette
- 6300 people are displaced and living with friends and relatives
- 5800 people are displaced and continue to live inside evacuation centers
- Only 33.5% of funding requirements have been met across all humanitarian sectors to respond fully to the disaster⁴
- Communities in GIDA require assistance for access to basic services
- Capacity building of health care workers needed for basic emergency obstetric and neonatal care (BEmONC) to rapidly respond and stabilize obstetric and neonatal emergencies
- Capacity building and development needed for case management services for GBV survivors, using a survivor centered approach
- Integration of SRH and GBV into the interventions of other sectors, including food security, shelter, health, nutrition, protection, and livelihoods.



To date, UNFPA has distributed:

Emergency kits to provide clean delivery supplies for **1800 births** Midwifery packs to equip **35 midwives** providing outreach in the community Primary care level equipment for **315 deliveries** Referral level medications and equipment for **225 cesarean deliveries** and **90 obstetric emergencies** Medications and supplies to respond to sexual violence for **250 women** and **50 children** through clinical management of rape

UNFPA Response

Sexual Reproductive Health

- Continued support for alternative service delivery models is ongoing at Emergency Maternity Tent Facilities (EMTF), RHMM, and to clinical staff of the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) stationed in Women and Child Protection Units (WCPU).
- A newly arrived WHoW truck was turned over to the Department of Health Eastern Visayas Center for Health and Development on March 27, 2022, in Barangay Himbangan, Saint Bernard, for use in the Odette emergency response and for reaching vulnerable communities.
- The EMTF outside of the Dinagat District Hospital was decommissioned as the hospital has restored services to its rehabilitated facility. The remaining birthing equipment and RH kits from the EMTF were transferred to Basilisa temporary field facility where deliveries are still being attended in a temporary structure.
- Facilities supported by UNFPA reported **527** safe deliveries by skilled providers in the month of April.
- RHMMs reached an additional **1,148** women and girls with reproductive health services and information.



- **469** additional cash for health payments were distributed through implementing partners Plan International and World Vision to women and adolescent girls attending postpartum care.
- UNFPA supported the deployment of regional and provincial MHPSS teams to Baybay and Abuyog, Southern Leyte on April 27, 2022 in response to Tropical Storm Agaton.
- MOSEP (Mindanao Organization for Social and Economic Progress) joined the UNFPA response to support the continuation of integrated SRH and GBV services and community information dissemination in Caraga.
- UNFPA, through implementing partners Plan International and World Vision, are continuing to work with local governments to complete refurbishment on ten health care facilities to ensure safe deliveries and access to reproductive health services.
- Three EMTF are operational and delivered services to an additional **123** women and girls in the reporting period.
- **Eight** field monitoring visits conducted to oversee implementation of SRH services in typhoon affected areas
- UNFPA participated in the Post Incident Evaluation After Action Review (PIE-AAR) on April 21-22, 2022 organized by Caraga Department of Health (DOH), and on April 29-30, 2022, organized by the Province of Dinagat Health Quad Cluster to generate lessons learned and recommendations to strengthen early recovery and future responses.

Sexual Reproductive Health Coordination

- UNFPA provided a Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) orientation during the Maasin, Macrohon, Malitbog, Bontoc and Limasawa Interlocal Health Zone (M3BL ILHZ) during the Technical Management Committee (TMC) meeting on April 5, 2022.
- Explored possible collaboration with the DOH and UNICEF, and assessed needs for a BEmONC training of RHU personnel to ensure the provision of safe deliveries and the ability of clinical staff to respond quickly to birth-related emergencies.

- UNFPA co-led **three** provincial-level (Dinagat Islands and Southern Leyte) and two regional-level (Caraga) SRH coordination meetings in the month of April.
- UNFPA, representing SRH partners, participated in discussions with the Reproductive Health Coordination Team to advocate for a meeting with Caraga DOH to discuss status on birthing facilities repair and "License to Operate" (LTO) standards for those facilities that are currently closed.

Gender Based Violence

- A total of **1500** vulnerable women and girls have received cash for protection assistance in Southern Leyte and Caraga.
- UNFPA supported an Introduction to GBV in Emergencies training, provided as part of UNHCR's Protection Mainstreaming and Information Management Workshop for planning officers on April 7, 2022 for a total of **35** participants (21 females, 14 males).
- The Women Friendly Space in Barangay San Jose, Maasin City, has been established, completing the three planned UNFPA-supported WFSs across Southern Leyte.
- Training on Introduction to GBV in Emergencies was provided as part of UNHCR's series of Protection Mainstreaming Workshops, reaching 21 participants (14 female, 7 male) from the Pacific Cluster of Municipalities on March 17, 2022, and 21 participants (14 female, 7 male) from the Maasin Cluster of Municipalities on March 22, 2022.



10,673 # of women and girls reached by life-saving messages on GBV info sessions in WFS



I,500 women provided with cash for protection assistance



Women friendly space (WFS) tents established

6

- The DOH Eastern Visayas Center for Health Development in collaboration with UNFPA conducted a three-part *Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) and GBV* training for MHPSS focal points and other health and social welfare actors throughout the region.
- **35** participants from the first MHPSS workshop in March were deployed on an on-the-job training to apply what they learned, and this was tied into the provision of psychological first aid to communities affected by Tropical Storm Agaton.
- An MHPSS and GBV Workshop was conducted on April 27-28 at Tanauan, Leyte for **33** participants (29 females, 4 males) to complete the three-stage training.
- In a UNFPA-WFP collaboration, the GBV referral pathway and referral mechanism was presented to beneficiaries during **27** distribution sessions in the Province of Dinagat Islands.
- **200** trained women facilitators continue to engage women and girls in their respective communities and in Women Friendly Spaces (WFS) established by UNFPA. A cash for work modality is on-going for 60 WFS facilitators in Southern Leyte, and has been completed after the final distribution of cash to 109 facilitators in the Provinces of Surigao del Norte and Dinagat Islands.
- **1,639** Dignity kits that give access of women and girls to proper hygiene materials during emergencies were distributed from March 16, 2022 to April 2022 in Southern Leyte and Caraga, including for Tropical Storm Agaton.
- **1134** solar lamps were distributed as a way to reduce the risk of sexual and gender-based violence in Southern Leyte, Surigao del Norte, and the Province of Dinagat Islands.
- **1639** women and girls were reached through GBV information and awareness sessions in Southern Leyte, Surigao del Norte and the Province of Dinagat Islands.
- UNFPA increased focus on the inclusion of men and boys in GBV information and sensitization sessions, reaching **3027** in April.

Gender Based Violence Coordination

- UNFPA attended the general coordination meeting of Typhoon Odette actors on March 22, 2022, shared updates on its GBV and SRH programs and coordination, and discussed collaboration with other agencies (particularly on information management) and improving the accessibility of humanitarian response among people with disabilities.
- UNFPA co-led **three** GBV Sub-Cluster meetings in Southern Leyte, and Caraga addressing challenges and gaps faced on the ground, provision of timely and quality services, including referral pathways and needs for continued capacity building of various duty bearers of GBV services.
- UNFPA participated in the **Gender in Humanitarian Action (GiHA) Community of Practice (CoP)** meeting on April 8, 2022 which included discussions on planning and interventions for the postdisaster recovery phase of Typhoon Odette response. GBV inputs were contributed to the Gender Alert: Philippines Super Typhoon Rai Response.⁷
- UNFPA met with local officials of the municipalities of Saint Bernard, Libjo, and Dapa to discuss the donation of three prefabricated and fully equipped containers to serve as the WCPU where services were disrupted by the typhoon.
- UNFPA met with local officials of the municipality of Macrohon, as well as leaders from the women's
 organization Pinangga to discuss LGU-led interventions to combat GBV and promote women's rights;
 and challenges faced by women in the community, with particular focus on economic
 disempowerment and its link to GBV, and possible solutions to address these.

Information Management

 UNFPA Information Management has agreed to support the Health Emergency Management Staff (HEMS) Report of the Caraga DOH to ensure that technical support is provided to data reporting and consolidation and to inform the local rehabilitation and response plan.



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