

Alert note

Combined Impacts of Southwest Monsoon, TD Prapiroon, and TY Gaemi | Philippines | 24 July 2024

Completed by: National Council of Churches in the Philippines

Date completed: 24.07.2024

Forum: PHILIPPINES

Type of emergency: Floods

Date of emergency (if rapid onset): 23-24 July 2024

1. The nature of the emergency

The Southwest Monsoon brought light to moderate rains in the Philippines since 11 July 2024. However, this was intensified by the Tropical Depression (TD) Prapiroon (locally named Butchoy) that entered on July 19, and traversed Southern Luzon. While TD Prapiroon left the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) on the next day, it still strengthened the impacts of the monsoon rains. It was then closely followed by Typhoon Gaemi (locally named Carina) that entered the PAR on July 21. It intensified as it moved north-westward across Luzon to the West Philippine Sea from July 22 to 23.

The impacts of the Southwest Monsoon, enhanced by TD Prapiroon and TY Gaemi, brought intense to torrential rains and devastating floods over the majority of Luzon, and some parts of Visayas and Mindanao. Red warning for torrential rains is already issued in the National Capital Region, Zambales, Bataan, Rizal, Bulacan, Pampanga, and Tarlac.

As of July 25, a total of 21 cities and towns, including the whole of NCR, were placed under State of Calamity. The State of Calamity will allow local government units to use their quick response funds for the combined effects of the southwest monsoon, TD Prapiroon, and TY Gaemi.

Sources:

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (Philippines)

<https://ndrrmc.gov.ph/>

https://ndrrmc.gov.ph/attachments/article/4259/SitRep_No_13_for_the_Combined_Effects_of_Southwest_Monsoon_TC_BUTCHOY_2024_and_TC_CARINA_2024.pdf

Philippine Information Agency

https://web.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=878131507688838&set=a.224647673037228&_rdc=1&_rd_r

2. The impact and scale of the emergency

The NCCP considers the emergency medium to large-scale. As of July 24, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) reported a total of 183,64 families or 882,861 individuals affected in 686 villages in 15 administrative regions. From which, 35,388 persons are evacuated in government-designated evacuation centers, while 576,936 persons are outside evacuation centers. The Council also reported eight deaths, two injured, and one missing.

While the primary impact of the combined effects of the southwest monsoon, TD Prapiroon and TY Gaemi is inundating floods, provinces also reported incidents of landslides, flash floods, road damages, and power cut-off.

Almost all cities in the National Capital Region (Metro Manila) have already been flooded by rains since July 23, Thursday. Although still incomplete and yet to be validated, NCCP is receiving alerts and calls for assistance in dense urban poor communities in Metro Manila and Bulacan province;

and fishing and farming communities in nearby provinces such as Batangas and Cavite. Initial assessment results show that coastal communities in land reclamation areas in Cavite, Bulacan, and Metro Manila experienced severe floods. Floods were also escalated by high-tide in Manila Bay areas.

Multiple dams in Metro Manila, Central Luzon, and Southern Tagalog are also set to release water due to the heavy rainfall, that may further inundate flooded towns.

It has to be noted that some flooded provinces, such as Romblon and Occidental Mindoro were also devastated by the recent severe drought and targeted in the previous NCCP-ACT Alliance RRF, but the rural farmers are still yet to fully recover from the previous disaster.

Government units have also identified the need for psychosocial first aid. Officials say that these massive floods are reminded the people of Typhoon Ketsana (Ondoy) that hit Luzon in 2009, a monumental disaster in NCR that led to the creation of the National DRRM Law. This disaster left many devastated and traumatized.

Sources:

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (Philippines)

<https://ndrrmc.gov.ph/>

https://ndrrmc.gov.ph/attachments/article/4259/SitRep_No_13_for_the_Combined_Effects_of_Southwest_Monsoon_TC_BUTCHOY_2024_and_TC_CARINA_2024.pdf

ABS-CBN News

<https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/2024/7/24/red-rainfall-warning-up-in-metro-manila-parts-of-luzon-serious-flooding-flooding-possible-923>

GMA News Network

<https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/914547/ncr-state-of-calamity-floods/story/>

Philippine Daily Inquirer

<https://www.inquirer.net/409587/live-updates-typhoon-carina/>

3. Local and national capacity

The national government also held its NDRRMC Response Cluster meeting on July 22, Monday, led by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to discuss national response cluster preparedness and readiness on the effects of TY Carina and Southwest Monsoon.

The NDRRMC, as of July 24, reported a total of PHP 776,996.63 worth of assistance provided to affected families, and PHP 3,785,420,885.60 worth of standby funds and pre-positioned goods from the DSWD and Office of Civil Defence. As of writing, local government units are still holding search and rescue, and retrieval operations.

Government data, especially in Luzon, is still incomplete and yet to be validated, as communication lines are being restored.

The NCCP Secretariat already activated our emergency response mechanism with Regional Ecumenical Council (REC) – Ecumenical Disaster Response and Management Committees (ECUDREAMCs). Initial reports on local situations are coming in from CALABARZON (Region IV-A) from the Southern Tagalog Region Ecumenical Affairs Assembly (STREAM), Romblon province through Romblon-Mindoro Ecumenical Council (ROMINEC), from Central Luzon through Pangasinan-Central Luzon Ecumenical Assembly (PACLEA) and from Benguet through Regional Ecumenical Council in Cordillera (RECCORD).

Multiple NCCP member churches in NCR also opened up their facilities as temporary evacuation centers and shelter, with hot meals and charging stations, for stranded commuters.

Sources:

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (Philippines)

<https://ndrrmc.gov.ph/>

https://ndrrmc.gov.ph/attachments/article/4259/SitRep_No_14_for_the_Combined_Effects_of_Southwest_Monsoon_TC_BUTCHOY_2024_and_TC_CARINA_2024.pdf

Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) – Disaster Response Operations, Management, Information and Communication (DROMIC)

<https://dromic.dswd.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/DSWD-DROMIC-Report-5-on-the-Effects-of-Southwest-Monsoon-and-Super-Typhoon-Carina-as-of-24-July-2024-6PM.pdf>

<https://dromic.dswd.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/DSWD-DROMIC-Report-6-on-the-Effects-of-Southwest-Monsoon-and-Super-Typhoon-Carina-as-of-25-July-2024-6AM.pdf>

4. Key needs and gaps

While the national government is already mobilizing its agencies and local units for response, needs and gaps are still being reported from our local assessment. These assessment reports come from far-flung and marginalized communities such as isolated indigenous people groups in Rizal province; and an urban poor/fisherfolk communities affected by the monsoon, typhoon, and now a massive oil spill that are threatened to be displaced by a land reclamation project in Cavite province. Farmers and residents in Central Luzon also reported that they have not yet received any assistance from their town office. Meanwhile, there are towns in Romblon Province that are still inundated by floods and isolated from any emergency response activities. Being devastated by a severe drought, their local government unit’s response capacity has also become weak.

The initial findings from the rapid assessment underscored the following needs:

- Food
- Potable water
- Cleaning materials
- Shelter repair kits
- Psychosocial intervention

Through swift reports from local ecumenical councils and partners, we have identified these priority areas:

- Region IV-A (CALABARZON) – Cavite, Rizal, and Batangas
- Region III (Central Luzon) – Bulacan, Pampanga, Pangasinan
- National Capital Region (Metro Manila) – Navotas City
- Region IV-B (MIMAROPA) - Romblon

The Humanitarian Response Team, from the NCCP Program Unit on Faith, Witness, and Service (FWS), mobilized Ecumenical Disaster Response and Management Committees (ECUDREAMCs) in affected regions/provinces for ongoing needs and capacity assessment. Their reports are also crucial at this point as secondary data from the NDRMMC is still inaccurate and incomplete.

The Team will also lead a National Humanitarian Coordination meeting on July 29, 2024 with the NCCP members, local ecumenical formations, and partners; for further data gathering and coordination of response.

Please indicate whether you are considering:

	Indicate your intention with an X below
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Rapid Response Fund (<i>intended for small and medium scale emergencies</i>)	X
Appeal (<i>intended for large scale emergencies</i>)	

If you indicate an intention to launch an appeal, the secretariat will activate an Emergency Steering Committee meeting within two working days on receipt of this alert.

Forum Capacity and members intention to respond

ACT Member	Geographical focus	Sectors of expertise	Support required	Estimated Budget range
NCCP	National Capital Region, Region III (Central Luzon), Region IV-A (CALABARZON) Region IV-B (MIMAROPA	Distribution (Food, WASH, Cash, Shelter Repair), Livelihood Assistance, Water System Construction/repair and other relevant recovery and rehabilitation activities.	Funds	150,000.00 USD

5. Potential responses

Since July 22, the NCCP has been consistent in reaching out to regional ecumenical councils (RECs) for data gathering. Some RECs have already reported heavy rains and floods in their towns.

Within two days after the disaster, RNA team will be deployed in heavily affected areas; and humanitarian coordination meetings and consultation will be conducted (in-person, online, hybrid) with member churches, associate members, ecumenical partners, and REC-ECUDREAMCs to gather and collate data on affected communities which will be vital in resource mobilization and response coordination.

The NCCP plans to respond to the immediate needs of the communities through Food, WASH, Unconditional Cash Transfer, and shelter repair kits in coordination with the regional ECUDREAMCs and member churches. A proposal for the Rapid Response Fund will be submitted by the ACT Philippines Forum with NCCP as a national member leading the emergency response. Coordination with other stakeholders such as LGU in the affected and other faith-based groups in the Philippine FBO Forum will be initiated and sustained.