

Alert note*Tropical Storm KRISTINE Philippines, 25 October 2024***Completed by: National Council of Churches in the Philippines****Date completed: 25 October 2024****Forum: ACT Philippines Forum****Type of emergency: Severe Tropical Storm Trami, Floods****Date of emergency (if rapid onset): 21-25 October 2024****Funding Survey**

If the forum indicates a plan to launch an appeal, we request funding members to please fill out this [survey form](#) which will help the **Emergency Steering Committee** assess the funding environment for this response. Please respond to this survey *within 24 hours of Alert publication*.

1. The nature of the emergency

Severe Tropical Storm Trami (locally named Kristine) wreaked havoc across multiple regions, triggering widespread flooding and landslides. From October 22 to 23, Trami lingered near the Bicol Region (Region V), delivering an unprecedented and record-high 525.5 mm of rainfall in just 24 hours. This torrential downpour triggered devastating flash floods and landslides, resulting in 62 fatalities in the region alone. It made landfall in the Province of Isabela in northern Luzon on October 24 and continued to cause flooding in Region 2 and flash floods in Region 4A which led to a massive landslide burying several houses in Talisay, Batangas. Rescuers scrambled to assist residents stranded by fast-rising floodwaters, as entire villages were submerged. At least 18 people, many of them children, lost their lives in a landslide that struck Talisay, further compounding the tragedy.

Cleanup and recovery efforts are underway in areas where floodwaters have begun to recede, and displaced residents are starting to return to their homes. However, local capacities remain stretched as rescue and response teams continue to face challenges due to damaged and flooded roads, hindering access to affected communities.

In less than a week, Super Typhoon Kong-Rey (locally named Leon), with maximum sustained winds of 195 km/h and gusts up to 240 km/h, entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) on October 27. Signal No. 5 was raised over Itbayat and Basco as the typhoon brought "violent conditions" while passing close to Batanes. The storm caused extensive damage across the province, still reeling from Typhoon Krathon (Julian) just a month earlier. STY Kong-Rey also triggered storm surges in Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte, and battered the Mountain Province with strong winds, displacing families and damaging homes.

As of this writing, tropical storm Yinxing (locally named Marce) has further intensified and is expected to reach typhoon category by the evening of November 5. TS Yinxing's track is in the middle of STS Trami and STY Kong-Rey which means it might hit the same areas pounded by the two cyclones.

2. The impact and scale of the emergency

The Philippines faces relentless onslaught of powerful tropical cyclones which have become both more frequent and severe - a worsening trend exacerbated by climate change. Uneven economic

development and limited adaptive capacity further amplify vulnerabilities of communities that depend on natural resources for their livelihoods. Each storm that destroys crops, equipment and homes pushes marginalized communities deeper into poverty, making recovery and building resilience increasingly difficult, if not impossible.

As of November 4, more than 8.6 million people (2.2 million families) have been affected with the combined effects of STS Trami and STY Kong-Rey across 17 out of 18 regions in the country. According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), at least 711,149 persons have been displaced which are either staying in government-designated evacuation centers or seeking temporary refuge with their friends or relatives. While the Department of Social Welfare and Development has reported 8.7 million people affected from the Bangsamoro Region in Mindanao to the northernmost part of Luzon in Batanes.

The number of casualties has risen with 151 reported deaths, 134 injured, and 21 missing. As of today, 252 cities/municipalities have been placed under the state of calamity.

As per initial figures shared by the government, at least 869 roads and 113 bridges are affected, which might affect the accessibility of the communities to humanitarian aid. At least 221,009 houses have been reported damaged, a number that is expected to rise as news reports and social media posts from residents reveal widespread flash floods and landslides impacting various villages, including remote areas.

Moreover, the agriculture and fisheries sector continue to suffer the most. As of this writing, an estimate of more than PHP 5 billion worth of loss and damage to agriculture was recorded, affecting 111,411 farmers and 92,892 hectares of land due to STS Trami and STY Kong-rey's onslaught. This will largely impact the food security of the affected communities, as well as the food supply in the country.

Sources:

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (Philippines)

<https://monitoring-dashboard.ndrrmc.gov.ph/page/situation/combined-effects-of-tcs-kristine-and-leon-2024>

3. Local and national capacity

The government is already mobilizing its structures and mechanisms to provide emergency relief assistance to the affected people but given the extensive extent of the need and damages support from civil society organizations and other relief agencies to fully address the needs, especially investing in the recovery of livelihoods and rehabilitation.

The NDRRMC reported a total of PHP 1.1 billion worth of assistance for food and non-food items have been provided to affected families. Out of 2,196,911 families requiring assistance, only 755,178 have been assisted to date. A total of PHP 2.5 million worth of assistance were also disbursed to assist the local government units and regional agencies. The DA said it ready to replant farms damaged by STS Trami once floods subside, with seeds and other inputs already prepositioned in agricultural areas on the path of the storm.

The faith-based organizations (FBOs) including the Catholic, Evangelical and Protestant groups initiated local responses, albeit with limited resources, and are actively coordinating through the FBO platform – the Philippine FBO Forum. The NCCP Secretariat has activated its response protocols and are coordinating with the Regional Ecumenical Councils (REC) and the Ecumenical Disaster Response and Management Committees (ECUDREAMCs) in Bicol, Southern Tagalog, MIMAROPA, Ilocos, Cordillera, Cagayan Valley and NCR to gather and consolidate grassroots and first-hand assessment. Initial reports on local situations are being consolidated and will be shared soon.

Sources:

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (Philippines)

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

<https://monitoring->

[dashboard.ndrrmc.gov.ph/assets/uploads/situations/SitRep_No_5_for_TC_KRISTINE_2024.pdf](https://monitoring-dashboard.ndrrmc.gov.ph/assets/uploads/situations/SitRep_No_5_for_TC_KRISTINE_2024.pdf)

4. Key needs and gaps

Detailed assessment in the affected areas is being consolidated, as per initial communication with the affected communities the immediate needs include distribution of food packs, hygiene/sanitation kits, kitchen utensils and household essential items, sleeping kits, and shelter repair materials apart from the emergency lifesaving assistance, the communities require a comprehensive support in early recovery & rehabilitation needs such as agricultural inputs, fishing paraphernalia, repair and maintenance of housing, debris removal etc.

The NCCP held a series of online coordination meetings on October 30 and November 4, to consolidate on-the-ground rapid assessments and church responses from the regions and its member churches. The NCCP has launched a public call for donation to provide assistance to the affected communities.

Currently, the NCCP humanitarian team is in the Bicol region to conduct damage, needs and capacity assessment in the most affected communities.

Please indicate whether you are considering:

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

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.

5. Forum Capacity and members intention to respond

ACT Member	Geographical focus	Sectors of expertise and experience
National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP)	Region I (Ilocos Region)	Relief Distribution (Food, WASH, NFIs, Multipurpose Cash Assistance), Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, Shelter Repair, Livelihood Assistance, Water System repair/construction, and other relevant recovery and rehabilitation activities. Region II and V have an existing Ecumenical Disaster Response and Management Committees (ECUDREAMCs) equipped with emergency response procedures, and RNA capacity.
	Region II (Cagayan Valley)	
	Region IVA (CALABARZON)	
	Region IVB (MIMAROPA)	
	Region V (Bicol)	

6. Potential responses

The National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) intends to address the immediate needs, as well as, the early recovery and rehabilitation needs of the affected communities in Luzon. The NCCP plans to respond with the support of the local partners and ACT Alliance members through the Appeal Mechanism.

Based on the initial communication with the local ecumenical partners, NCCP plans to publish an appeal with a focus on distribution of food packs, hygiene/sanitation kits, non-food items, multi-purpose cash assistance, and shelter repair materials, repair or construction of water system, agricultural inputs, fishing paraphernalia, disaster risk reduction orientations and psychosocial support activities, etc.

Prioritization of the needs for a possible response will be conducted after a need and gaps analysis. Local partners and volunteers will soon conduct Rapid Need Assessment in the affected areas.