



Super Typhoon Rai (Odette) Situation Report 06

UNFPA Philippines produce this report in collaboration with its key humanitarian partners. This report covers the period March 16-31 2022.

Summary Figures

16 Million

Total people in severely affected areas



4,136,672

Women of Reproductive Age



1,440,000

Adolescent girls (ages 10-19 years old)



265,200

Currently Pregnant Women



39,780

Pregnant Women with Obstetric Complications



Data based on Humanitarian Needs and Priorities by the HCT issued 02 Feb 2022. View here <https://bit.ly/3Jivmfg>

13,852

Total women and girls reached as of reporting period



Situation Overview

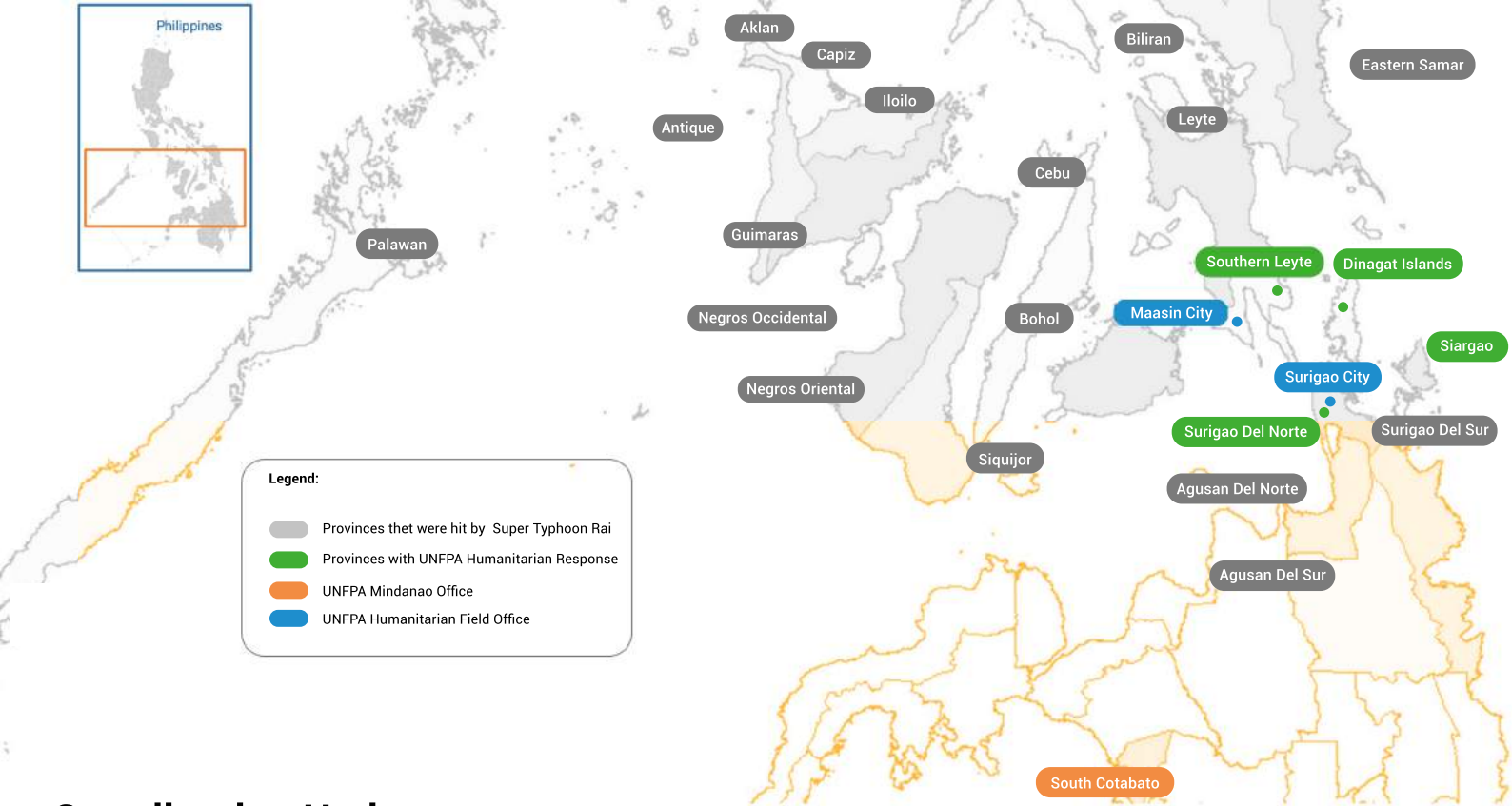
On December 16th, 2021 Super Typhoon Rai (locally called Odette) slammed into the Philippines with sustained maximum winds of 195 and gusts of up to 260 km/hr. A total of 9 landfalls left significant devastation with the most severely impacted areas being the coastal communities of Surigao del Norte, Dinagat Islands, Southern Leyte, Bohol, and Cebu, affecting over 11 million people and killing 405.^[1]

A total of 2.1 million homes were damaged, of which 425,000 were completely destroyed, leaving many in evacuation centers and in need of protection, health, shelter, and food support. 32,073 people continue to be displaced across typhoon-affected areas while 25,905 individuals remain in 413 evacuation centers.^[2]

Despite the efforts and progress made, many survivors await permanent relocation. The need for a durable solution for millions of people whose homes were damaged or destroyed is critical. The national Government deactivated the Emergency Operation Center (including at regional levels) on February 21, 2022, signaling the move towards early recovery, and yet the need for basic services remains high for those in significantly affected locations.

In the recent visit of UNFPA's Executive Director Dr. Natalia Kanem to Southern Leyte, she reaffirmed growing concerns about multiple risks faced by millions of vulnerable people and the need to be continuously responsive to reproductive health and rights, protection, and gender-sensitive needs of women and girls. In the wake of COVID-19, however, the provision of routine and essential care, vaccinations, and infection prevention and control have left health care workers overstretched; there are currently insufficient human resources to respond to all needs particularly in remote areas, due to these competing priorities.

Only 33.5% of the required funding^[1] was mobilized for the Typhoon Odette response. There is an urgent need for collective action on maternal health and protection interventions to ensure that the multiple vulnerabilities faced by women and adolescents are urgently addressed.



Coordination Updates

Typhoon Odette affected communities in Southern Leyte hosted Dr. Natalia Kanem, UNFPA Executive Director, with Bjorn Andersson, UNFPA's Director of the Asian Pacific Regional Office (APRO), and UNFPA Philippines Country Representative, Dr. Leila Joudane to discuss the effects of the disaster on vulnerable populations, including women and girls.

During the mission, the Governor of Southern Leyte - the Honorable Damian Mercado, the Eastern Visayas Regional Director of Health, Exuperia Sabalberino, and the Mayor of St. Bernard, Manuel Calapare alongside other dignitaries, observed a Reproductive Health Medical Mission. A Women's Health on Wheels (WHoW) was officially handed over from UNFPA to the Regional Government for use in providing care for the Odette response and to geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDA).

The UNOCHA midterm report of UNFPA lifesaving activities and targets under CERF funding was completed and reviewed, highlighting the achievements to date and areas for action in the coming 3 months of response interventions.

Following the action plans from the CERF midterm review, discussions have been held with the World Food Program (WFP), IOM, and UNICEF to find areas of convergence for response programming. In addition, UNFPA and FAO are exploring potential joint programming to respond to Odette affected areas.

Programme Updates

Sexual Reproductive Health

Province of Southern Leyte

The Emergency Maternity Tent Facility (EMTF) continued its service delivery in Sogod and Pintuyan, providing support for eight live births and 19 prenatal care visits in this reporting period; 14 additional patients were assessed and referred to the hospital in this reporting period.

Integrated reproductive health medical mission (RHMM) with the Women's Health on Wheels (WHoW) was conducted on March 27, 2022, with the integration of GBV and prenatal health information sessions for attendees. The World Food Program also contributed a nutrition session, increasing the breadth of health and safety promotion for women and girls in the community. The RHMM in Southern Leyte reached an additional 500 women and girls.

A newly arrived WHoW truck was turned over to the Department of Health Eastern Visayas Center for Health and Development (DOH EV CHD) last March 27, 2022, in Barangay Himbangan, Saint Bernard, for use in the Odette emergency response and for reaching vulnerable communities.

Gaps and Challenges

The first deployed WHoW truck to the Odette response was returned to the Eastern Samar government at the end of March. Continued technical assistance is needed for the deployment and sustained operation of the new unit recently turned over to the Province of Eastern Visayas' Department of Health.



1,014

Safe deliveries supported



1,773

Family Planning Consultations



1

Women's Health on Wheels deployed

Programme Updates

Sexual Reproductive Health

Caraga Region

RHMMs reached 624 women and girls since March 15th, and the EMTF in Pilar recorded an additional 42 antenatal care visits, 14 facility-based deliveries, 14 postnatal care visits, and 13 family planning (FP) counseling visits, all resulting in 13 FP new acceptors (women receiving a family planning method) during the reporting period.

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.

The facilities supported by UNFPA, including EMTF and Caraga Regional Hospital, Dinagat, and Albor District Hospitals have reported 562 safe deliveries (496 normal and 66 cesarean births)

Gaps and Challenges

There is a need to consolidate efforts amongst participants of the Reproductive Health Coordinating Team (RHCT) to coordinate the ongoing repair of the birthing facilities and to ensure License to Operate (LTO) will be issued.

Capacity building for Basic Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (BEmONC) training of Rural Health Unit personnel is recommended. This will ensure the provision of safe deliveries and the ability of clinical staff to respond quickly to birth-related emergencies.

MHPSS/PFA providers are needed in remote locations as the needs of typhoon survivors remain high, including for women of reproductive age.

Gender-based Violence

Province of Southern Leyte

The Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) stationed in the Women and Child Protection Unit (WCPU) in Saint Bernard Rural Health Unit is now fully functional, providing services to GBV survivors in St. Bernard including referrals from nearby municipalities.

The Women Friendly Space in Brgy. San Jose, Maasin City, has been established, completing the three planned UNFPA-supported WFSs across Southern Leyte.

On March 24-25, 2022, 322 Dignity Kits were distributed to GBV survivors and other vulnerable women in the Municipality of Limasawa.

60 WFS facilitators are deployed in their respective communities to conduct information sessions and other activities in a Cash-for-Work scheme. During the reporting period, WFS facilitators in Limasawa conducted 1 information session reaching 111 women, in Bontoc 2 information sessions reached 199 women; and in Maasin 6 sessions reached 84 women and 3 men.

4 WFS Facilitators from Bontoc participated in the Reproductive Health Medical Mission on March 27, 2022, in the Municipality of Saint Bernard to provide GBV information sessions, reaching 35 women and 1 man.

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.

Gaps and Challenges

A ban on the disbursement of funding for government programming due to the upcoming elections is causing delays and other challenges to service delivery for GBV survivors and increasing the reliance on UN/donor funding to ensure an uninterrupted response.

There are few trained GBV service delivery personnel in the province, and the limited number of facilities offering GBV services poses a continuing challenge to service delivery for GBV survivors. Many survivors need to travel far distances to access essential support.

Support is needed to address facility and service-related challenges faced by vulnerable groups, including people with disabilities (PWDs) and the LGBTIQ+ community, in accessing the GBV referral mechanisms.



10,028

participants of GBV information sessions



6

Women Friendly Space (WFS) tents established

Programme Updates

Gender-based Violence

Caraga

140 trained WFS facilitators continue to conduct awareness-raising sessions in their communities in a cash for work modality.

In Dinagat provinces, awareness-raising sessions reached 1,432 women and girls with 46 sessions conducted about gender sensitivity and women's rights, 53 sessions on GBV and referral pathways, and 3 sessions on psychosocial support

In mainland Surigao del Norte, UNFPA partner, Maradeca started to conduct awareness sessions with men and boys with a total of 164 reached in the reporting period.

A total of 60 WFS facilitators were provided cash for work.

3 Women and Child Protection Units (WCPU) were assessed in Surigao del Norte and Dinagat Island hospitals as partially functional. This was due largely to 1) lack of skilled manpower (particularly psychologists), and 2) Odette-related damage to infrastructure.

7 Women and Child Protection Desks overseen by Philippine National Policewomen in Municipality offices were assessed as partially functional due to Odette-related infrastructure damage.

Gaps and Challenges

Psychologists are needed in order to ensure a fully functioning multi-disciplinary team for GBV response in WCPUs, however the lack of human resource results in incomplete staffing. In addition, damages to the facilities create hardship for the staff who are forced to operate in areas outside of their designated office spaces.

Coordination Updates

SRH Coordination

Southern Leyte

The quad cluster convened last March 24, 2022 covering health, WASH, nutrition, and mental health and psychosocial support. The sexual and reproductive health (SRH) subcluster was represented by Dr. Matibag, Provincial Health Officer II.

UNFPA participated in the Provincial Health Investment Planning session held on March 17-18, 2022, which included investments in integrating minimum initial services package (MISP) for sexual and reproductive health in emergencies (SHRIE) in the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management program.

The 4th RHCT meeting was held on March 29, 2022, and was hosted by Anahawan District Hospital. This is a collaborative meeting between government bodies and UN / INGO and NGO partners responding to the crisis to ensure reproductive health services are comprehensive and gaps are addressed.

Gaps and Challenges

There is a need for continued coordination for the operation of the recently deployed WHow unit and for the endorsement of a strategic response plan.

Government partners have expressed the need to expand SRH services outside of the current project areas covered.

Caraga

UNFPA attended the regular Provincial Health Cluster meeting of Dinagat Islands on March 22, 2022 at the Emergency Operations Center, and pushed for the inauguration of the 1st Provincial-level meeting of the SRH Working Team to be co-led by UNFPA on March 31, 2022.

The Provincial Health Office was supported by UNFPA during the 1st Provincial-level meeting of the SRH Working Team in Surigao del Norte, held March 25, 2022. The team discussed 1) draft Terms of Reference for the SRH Working Team, 2) draft policy for the SRH Working Team EO/Ordinance, and 3) SRH 3Ws (where, what, when) for all partners providing services. Each was considered and action points endorsed.

Priority issues and problems on the License to Operate (LTO) of birthing facilities were discussed by the SRH Working Team together with the DOH Caraga Region representatives. The main issue appears to be the increased need for BEmONC trained staff.

Gaps and Challenges

Support to the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO) will ensure the organogram of the SRH Working Team is fully incorporated for effective coordination and collective response and that requirements for the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for SRH in emergencies to affected vulnerable populations are met.

BEmONC training is needed for staff in birthing units in Caraga before the license to operate (LTO) will be issued.

With other health actors ending their response support, UNFPA, (aside from government surge) is one of the few health/SRH partners in the province, leaving the burden of the response to few actors.

Coordination Updates

GBV Coordination

Southern Leyte

The Protection/Child Protection (CP)/GBV, Joint Working Group met on March 18, 2022 and discussed (1) the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Joint Working Group; (2) the reconvening of the GBV Sub-Cluster; and (3) the need to expand the referral mechanisms of GBV survivors and other vulnerable groups to include livelihood services.

UNFPA represented the GBV Sub-Cluster at the Regional Protection Coordination (RHCT), and Mainstreaming and Information Management Workshop held at Tacloban City on March 24, 2022. Challenges, gaps, and solutions for protection mainstreaming and information management training sessions conducted throughout Southern Leyte; the Protection Coordination Framework was also validated, and Information Management Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines were reviewed.

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.

The Protection/CP/GBV Core Group met on March 28, 2022, and discussed the (1) implications of the election ban on service provision to GBV and CP clients, (2) the availability of services for GBV and CP survivors in Southern Leyte, and (3) the translation of the referral mechanisms into Bisaya.

Gaps and Challenges

There is a need to harmonize and improve data collection and analysis, and utilization of various GBV actors in Southern Leyte, to ensure adherence to the GBV guiding principles, and to improve coordination for evidence-based policy planning, budgeting and implementation.

Support is needed for increased understanding and capacity of local duty-bearers about protection and GBV concerns and mechanisms to ensure that GBV is mainstreamed into humanitarian response, early recovery, and other long-term plans.

Caraga

At the Regional Inter-Agency Committee on Anti-Trafficking meeting last March 21, 2022, the Department of Interior Local Government (DILG) Caraga shared an advisory on the adjusted schedules of Local Coalition Against Trafficking-Violence Against Women and Children (LCAT-VAWC) Local Council for the Protection of Children (LCPC), and Barangay Violence Against Women Desk functionality assessment in the last week of April 2022 to the last week of May 2022.

The Provincial Inter-Agency Committee on Anti-Trafficking-Violence Against Women and Children for Surigao del Norte was reactivated with support from UNFPA. All GBV stakeholders (UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs, Civil Society Organizations, accredited by the province and operating in SDN) were initially mapped, the TOR for the protection cluster was presented and adopted, local referral pathway was presented and discussed, and the Provincial Philippines National Police shared data on the WCPU for the 1st quarter of 2022.

Communications

- UNFPA featured in UNited to Leave No One Behind Newsletter Issue 6 March 2022. Read the story in full here: <https://bit.ly/38dRUK3>



IN THE KNOW

What are Reproductive Health Kits?

The reproductive health kits are designed for use in the early phase of a crisis situation. The IARH kits have been designed to facilitate the provision of priority reproductive health services to displaced populations without medical facilities or where medical facilities are disrupted during a crisis. IARH kits contain essential drugs, equipment, and supplies needed to provide reproductive health care in crises and have been assembled into a set of specially designed pre-packaged kits.

Each of the reproductive health kits responds to a particular reproductive health need and contains supplies calculated for a specific number of people for a three-month period.

Depending on the type of RH kit, its purpose may respond to the needs of survivors of sexual violence, prevent the transmission of and reduce morbidity and mortality due to HIV and other STIs, prevent excess maternal and newborn morbidity and mortality, prevent unintended pregnancies and/or plan for comprehensive SRH services, integrated into primary health care as soon as possible.

Gaps and Challenges

- Follow up on critical stories of women and girls' situation 'on the ground' in typhoon-affected areas is impacted due to the rapid movement of displaced families from one place to another.
- A depleted public / media attention on the Typhoon Odette response is noted as it competes with ongoing Covid19 concerns and coming elections in the Philippines.



Information Management

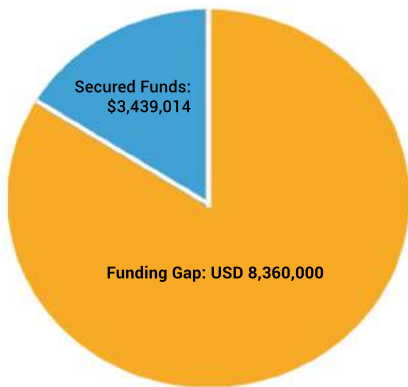
UNFPA conducted a 2-hour Information Management orientation with Implementing Partners; Plan International, Coalition Against Trafficking in Women – Asia Pacific, and World Vision on March 25, 2022 to establish a systematic data and report flow ensuring accomplishments, reach, and learnings are recorded, analyzed, and communicated.

UNFPA participated in the 2nd Southern Leyte Provincial IM Working Group meeting organized by OCHA on March 24, 2022. The group discussed the IM training needs survey, proposed provincial training plan, data collection status, mapping, and analysis of activities.

UNFPA IM participated in a site visit to the WFS tent in Barangay San Jose, Maasin City on March 30 together with GBV focal and OCHA Senior Gender Advisor – GenCap.

Resource Mobilization

Funding target: USD 12 Million



USD12 million is needed to respond to Typhoon Odette. To date, USD 3,439,014 have been generously donated by:

- CERF - \$2, 579,014
- UNFPA Emergency Fund - \$500,000
- DFAT - \$ 360,000

This leaves a funding gap of USD 8,360,000 to respond to the needs of women and girls for or sexual reproductive health, GBV and MHPSS.

In addition to funds received from donor countries and CERF, the UNFPA Individual Gift Giving campaign has received a cumulative amount of USD 14,000

The Typhoon Odette donation portal through UNFPA now includes a wider network of banking platforms to ensure that the donation process is simplified.

REFERENCES

1. UN OCHA - Philippines: Super Typhoon Rai (Odette) Situation Report No. 6 <https://reliefweb.int/report/philippines/philippines-super-typhoon-rai-odette-situation-report-no-6-11-march-2022>
2. IOM - UN MIGRATION Situation Report No. 13 as of 18 March 2022

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