

Summary Figures

16 Million

Total people in severely affected areas



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.

12,333
Total women and girls reached



Situation Overview

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

While much progress has been made, and response turns to early recovery, many people are still left in complete devastation without stable shelter, access to preventative, curative and emergency care, adequate food supplies and protection.

Hospitals and infirmaries are starting to improve in functionality, but many are still struggling to manage critical and lifesaving obstetric services. Birthing facilities, Barangay (Community) Health Stations, and Rural Health Units (RHU) which are traditional sites for women to access sexual and reproductive health and obstetric care services are mostly non-functional in hard-hit areas, making it challenging for women and girls to access family planning and other services.

At three months many families have returned home but a significant number are still living in the evacuation centers awaiting secure housing. As a measure against future damage, the government has established no build zones which discourages families from returning to the site of their original homes. The conditions in the evacuation centres and no build zone exacerbate the typhoon survivors' exposure to protection risks.

GBV Sub-Clusters are activated in both Southern Leyte and Caraga. However, frontline workers and local health care providers continue to need capacity building for addressing protection concerns and mechanisms. GBV referral pathways exist across all levels of government but are not yet standardized. Ensuring that these mechanisms are compliant with minimum health standards should be a priority and health care providers require additional training for clinical management of rape.

There is a heightened need for mental health and psychosocial support not only for typhoon survivors but also for those responding to typhoon Odette in the field. There is a need for increased coordination and a standardized framework for delivering MHPSS to enable the community to recover and regain a sense of normalcy.



UNFPA, along with other UN agencies, received funding from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to respond immediately to lifesaving needs after the landfall of Typhoon Odette.

March 16th marked three months into the response. Resident Coordinator / Humanitarian Coordinator Gustavo González together with heads of UN agencies visited the field for a midterm review to assess the progress, gaps and good practices.

Three of the CERF donor countries, including Norway, the United Kingdom and Canada sent their Ambassadors Bjørn Staurset Jahnsen, Laure Beaufils, and Peter James MacArthur (respectively) to join the mission.

Programs in both Caraga and Southern Leyte were reviewed and the delegation were invited to meet local government, NGO and INGO partners, ensuring a platform for continued cooperation and collaboration in the remaining 3 months of the funding.

Programme Updates

Sexual Reproductive Health

Province of Southern Leyte

- UNFPA continues to support alternative service delivery models for maternal services through Emergency Maternity Tent Facilities (EMTFs) supporting Pintuyan Infirmary Hospital and Sogod District Hospital.
- The women's health on wheels (WHoW), a mobile maternity health facility designed to support pregnant women's health services and sexual reproductive health and gender-based violence, formerly at the evacuation centre was moved to another isolated community with low access to healthcare.
- Human Resource for Health continues to support midwife and nurse staffing needs for both Pintuyan Infirmary Hospital and Sogod District Hospital.
- Repair and provision of equipment for referral facilities at Salvacion Oppus Yniguez Memorial Hospital, Pintuyan Infirmary Hospital EMTF and Sogod District Hospital EMTF platforms are continuing to ensure safe deliveries for pregnant women.
- Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health in Emergencies training was conducted for 22 peer educators between Feb 27-Mar 2022 in 4 municipalities in Maasin City, Bontoc, St. Bernard and San Ricardo.
- Profiling for the provision of Cash for Health for pregnant and lactating women is ongoing to ensure continuous availment of maternal services with an aim to reach 800 women.

Gaps and Challenges

- Long term support is needed for Human Resource for Health in health facilities at district levels.
- Additional resource for repair and provision is needed for equipment like ultrasound machines that will cater to the health needs vulnerable pregnant women and girls.
- Maternity waiting homes are needed in close proximity to hospitals for women who are nearing delivery or are immediately post partum living in far-flung communities. This will allow immediate attention and emergency care of patients with pregnancy complications.





Supported



Women's Health on Wheels



From top left: Dr Leila Joudane, Country Representative UNFPA; UK Ambassador Laura Beaufils, Leads of SOYM Provincial Hospital, Canada Ambassador Peter MacArthur; Gustavo Gonzalez UN Resident Coordinator; Oyunsaikhan Dendevnorov Country Representative UNICEF; Brenda Barton, Country Representative, WFP

Programme Updates

Sexual Reproductive Health

Caraga Region

- Reproductive health medical mission (RHMM) was conducted on March 10 2022 reaching a total of 737 women in Dinagat Islands with family planning services, prenatal care including ultrasounds, vaccines and psychosocial support.
- Safe deliveries continue to be supported through the Emergency Meternity Tent Facility (EMTF) at District Dinagat Hospital and Pilar Rural Health Unit.
- In early March, four additional kits (clinical delivery assistance/ midwifery supplies, obstetric surgery kits for complications) were sent to Caraga Regional Hospital, Dinagat District Hospital and Albor District Hospital to complement previous distribution of essential medications and emergency obstetric equipment.

Gaps and Challanges

- Support needed for the renewal of birthing facilities' License to Operate through the Reproductive Health Coordinating Team which is co-led by UNFPA.
- Need to re-orient and support capacity of the health care providers on the updated standards and protocols on the provision of BEMONC and CEMONC services and handling of clinical management of rape.

*BEMONC - Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care, CEMONC - Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care

Gender-based Violence

Province of Southern Leyte

- Services commenced for survivors of GBV, including access to a Women and Child Protection Unit (WCPU) overseen by a Multidisciplinary Team (MDT), and are readily accessible at the Salvacion Oppus-Yniguez Memorial Provincial Hospital (SOYMPH).
- Post Rape Treatment Kits were distributed to SOYMPH and the St. Bernard Rural Health Unit, where GBV services will also soon be accessible.
- Women-Friendly Spaces (WFS) activities in Limasawa and Bontoc are continuing. WEAVERS, Plan International, and the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office have trained 60 internally displaced women to be WFS facilitators in a cash-for-work scheme.
- WFS Facilitators in Limasawa organized 4 information sessions reaching 230 participants during the international women's month celebration. 20 identified PWDs, lactating and pregnant women, and VAWC survivors facilitated cash for protection distribution to 70 women and were paid through cash-for-work modality.
- 380 women, including GBV survivors, adolescent mothers and people with disability in 10 municipalities were given Cash-for-Protection through the implementing partner, CATW-AP.

Caraga Region

- Life-saving integrated GBV key messages developed through the GBV Sub-Clusters used in Women Friendly Spaces and Reproductive Health Medical Missions.
- WFS activities were initiated on March 7, 2022 in Barangay Day-asan, Surigao City supporting education, prevention and response to GBV and including SRH and MHPSS awareness raising sessions.
- 140 WFS facilitators are deployed in their communities and are conducting information sessions on SRH and GBV messaging.
- Post distribution monitoring is being organized for the 1,000 women including survivors, women with disabilities, and heads of households who received cash for protection.
- 4,900 women were reached through GBV education sessions conducted by partners ACCORD and Maradeca from March 1-15, 2022



1450
GBV survivors and vulnerable women

GBV survivors and vulnerable women received cash for protection



Multidisciplinary teams supported



200
WFS facilitators



The UN Philippines team for UNCERF MTR mission met with multidisciplinary team (MDT) organized by UNFPA through Plan International working together so referral mechanisms are established and survivors of abuse have access to immediate support.

Gaps and Challenges

- A limited number of trained GBV service delivery personnel and a limited number of facilities offering GBV services increases the distances survivors have to travel to access essential support.
- Vulnerable groups including LGBTQi's need full access to access the GBV referral mechanisms.
- · Capacity of GBV partners needs to be supported to meet international minimum standards.
- There is a need to ensure referral pathway information is posted in more strategic sites in Surigao City, and across all affected areas.

Coordination Updates

SRH Coordination

Southern Leyte

- The Provincial Health Office was supported on the conduct of the 3rd MISP Reproductive Health Coordinating Team (RHCT) to rally support for coordinated SRH response in the province
- UNFPA provided support to the Panaon Interlocal Health Zone Technical Management Committee Meeting (local government mechanism)

SRH working group activated in Southern Leyte

Caraga

- The DOH agreed to initiate Plan Implementation Evaluation (PIE) for the response during the 10th Health Quad Cluster Meeting.
- UNFPA alongside the DOH will present the SRH monitoring tool during the Health Quad Cluster Meeting.

Gaps and Challenges

- Mapping of SRH working groups in Caraga needs to be finalized to enable convergence and increased coordination among UN
 agencies, INGOs and local actors needs finalizing.
- Support to RHCT will be needed to enable fulfiment of its role as a coordinating body on the implementation of MISP during emergencies.
- · Capacity building or training on Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) recommended to the members of the RHCT.

GBV Coordination

Southern Leyte

• The Protection-CP-GBV Core Group met and discussed the roll out of the Referral Mechanism materials across the province, including the finalization of the feedback mechanism and the terms of reference of the Protection-CP-GBV Joint Working Group

GBV Sub-Cluster is activated in Southern Leyte & Caraga

Caraga

• The Protection- RCAT-GBV CP- Working Group Meeting was held in 4 March 2022, and the GBV referral pathway was endorsed by all partners including the government and is ready for distribution.

Gaps and Challenges

- There is a need to clarify objectives, membership, and responsibilities of the Protection-CP-GBV Joint Working Group, and this should be addressed by the Joint Working Group's Terms of Reference.
- There is a need to increase the understanding and capacity of all GBV actors including government for protection concerns and mechanisms to ensure that GBV is mainstreamed into recovery and other long-term plans.
- The need to convene/ reactivate PCAT-VAWC in Surigao del Norte and Province of Dinagat Isalands.

To date, UNFPA has distributed:

- Emergency clean delivery kits to provide safe equipment for 1,800 births.
- Midwifery packs to equip 35 midwives providing outreach in the community
- Primary care level reusable equipment for 315 deliveries
- Primary care medications and disposable equipment for 90 deliveries
- Referral-level reusable equipment for 225 cesarean deliveries and 90 other obstetric emergencies
- Referral-level medications and disposable equipment for 150 cesarean deliveries and 60 obstetric emergencies
- Medications and supplies to respond to sexual violence for 200 women and 40 children through clinical management of rape.





Communications

- The communications team continuously provides updates and on-time stories on the ongoing UNFPA's emergency response through social media platforms (Facebook. Twitter and Instagram), website, and media press releases.
- In 14 March 2022, the Women's Health on Wheels Facility in Saint Bernard, Southern Leyte was featured in the UNFPA headquarters 'International Women's Day celebration and in Reliefweb's new release https://bit.ly/36nh7Yr







Link to Tweet: https://bit.ly/3KWEFTb

From left: the official opening of the United Nations Hub with developmental partners in Surigao City which will serve as a coordination hub for emergency response; the delivery of five healthy baby girls in Emergency Maternity Tent set up by UNFPA in Pilar, Siargao, and the Facilitators Training of Women Friendly Spaces which was funded by UNFPA and UNCERF





Top: UNFPA Country Representative Dr Leila Joudane visited the women at the Women Friendly Space in Surigao City; UN Representatives, Lourdes Ibarra and Hannes Goegele-Emergency Coordinator of WFP, Manja Vidic of UNOCHA, Oyunsaikhan Dendevnorov of UNICEF, Gustavo González, Resident Coordinator of UN Philippines, Norway Ambassador Bjørn Jahnsen, Dr Leila Joudane of UNFPA and Troy Dooley IOM Officer in Charge.

Gaps and Challenges

- Develop a humanitarian communication plan for the continuing Typhoon Odette response.
- More communication materials are needed to strenghten community outreach and education.
- Strenghten communication between communities and UNFPA to fully understand needs and gaps in programming.

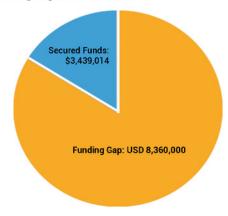
· ☐ IN THE KNOW

What is a Reproductive Health Medical Mission?

UNFPA has a unique response to the needs of women and girls in emergencies. Because services for reproductive health, prevention and response to gender-based violence, and access to psychosocial support must be maintained, UNFPA works with grassroot and local organizations to support the government in providing holistic medical care (family planning, prenatal visits and ultrasound, vaccines, pharmacy) in locations with little access to services. Reproductive Health Medical Missions serve the needs of vulnerable communities, with inclusive care for youth, women with disabilities, and LGBTQI. Onsite information sessions empower women with knowledge, allowing them to make informed decisions about their care.

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:

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

This leaves a funding gap of USD 8,360,000 to respond to the needs of women and girls for 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 Php 60,284.00 and USD 12,832

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



To read Typhoon Odette survivors' stories, scan this below:



UNFPA and partners conduct Reproductive Health Medical Mission in Southern Leyte. YPEER, a network of young people and organizations working in sector of young people's Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), assists health workers in explaining the available medicine for pregnant women and adolescent girls

After the typhoon, our source of income was badly affected so I want to make sure I don't have an unplanned pregancy for the welfare of my family."

- Annabele Kong, 31



Thanks to WHoW, I was able to deliver Baby Heart Eonfae safely even after Typhoon Odette destroyed our Reproductive Health Facility"

- Mariel Bucag, 30

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