



ACTED's Rapid Response Mechanism at work in Mindanao's Mainland

Natural disasters hit the Philippines every year, affecting populations and limiting the economic development of the archipelago. Moreover, the Philippines is a hotbed of internal tensions, particularly on the island of Mindanao: the region is affected by internal conflicts since the 1960s, with many insurgent rebel groups, including ISIL-affiliated armed groups, plunging the region into conflict in 2017 and further weighting on populations already afflicted by natural disasters.

Mindanao is home to the Muslim community of the country, particularly in the western part, in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, one of the poorest areas of the country, with a poverty incidence of 53.7% in 2015 (Philippine Statistics Authority - PSA). On May 23, 2017, violent clashes erupted in Marawi City between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and ISIL-affiliated armed groups, eventually leading to a 5-month siege. As a direct result of the conflict in Marawi City, more than 400,000 individuals have been displaced. In total, over **1.6 million people were displaced** in 2017 throughout Mindanao. The tensions also strongly affected other areas, such as the Maguindanao province.

ACTED is one of main stakeholders in the emergency response since its intervention in 2012 in response to typhoon Bopha. Since April 2017, the NGO has been providing emergency assistance to communities affected by the armed conflict and natural disasters in the region through its rapid response mechanism (RRM). In particular, ACTED has been able to provide information about the displaced people while providing a multi-sectorial response to their needs. Since the establishment of the RRM, ACTED has conducted and shared **31 multi-sectors evaluations**, informing the humanitarian response and strengthening the overall capacities of the humanitarian community in the Philippines.

Thanks to the RRM set up, ACTED has been able, as of January 2018 to provide **direct support to 28,000 people** affected by the internal conflict or natural disasters since June 2017. Also, ACTED's evaluations and referral system enabled partners to provide emergency response to over **29,000 people**. Beyond the RRM, ACTED has been able to mobilize extra funds to cover specific crises, in particular the Marawi Crisis and tropical storm Vinta (Tembin), through the Start Fund.

2018 ACHIEVEMENTS

Integrated Humanitarian assistance to populations affected by Typhoon Vinta

On Friday 22nd December 2017, Tropical Storm Tembin (locally known as Vinta) made landfall in the southern coasts of Mindanao, causing major flooding and landslides, damaging infrastructures and farmlands and affecting more than 550,000 people. In the days that followed, with support from the Start Fund and partners from the private sector, ACTED, Action Against Hunger and Relief International launched an operation to provide assistance to the most affected areas of Mindanao. Since January 2018 ACTED as been able to provide assistance to 1,134 affected households, as well as key information on proper hygiene practices to more than 4,000 families. Urgent needs of the targeted communities were provided short term-relief through the distribution of 571 Non-food Items kits, 89 shelter kits and 563 hygiene kits.

ACTED plans future distributions of essential items to start in February 2018.

SHELTER RESULTS:

Emergency Response to Tropical Storm Vinta (Tembin):

- 89 vulnerable households, counting for 212 men and 192 women, received emergency shelter repair kits and awareness raising sessions on Build Back Safer techniques;

WASH RESULTS:

Emergency Response to Tropical Storm Vinta (Tembin):

- 567 vulnerable households received immediate WASH assistance through the provision of hygiene kits.
- 4,172 of the most vulnerable households' members received key information on proper hygiene practices.

Emergency Response to Tropical Storm Urduja (Kai-Tak):

- 7,752 beneficiaries of Eastern Samar have received hygiene and water kits.

Faecal Sludge Management in Guiuan:

- 1,874 households were orientated on toilet maintenance and other sanitation issues
- 142 Barangay Health Workers, Barangay Sanitary Inspectors, Barangay Nutrition Scholars and Municipal Sanitary Inspectors trained on sanitation community mobilization,

PROTECTION RESULTS:

Emergency Response to Tropical Storm Vinta (Tembin):

- 571 of the vulnerable households received non-food items kits.

Faecal Sludge Management in Eastern Samar: A Training of Trainers



In 2017, ACETD launched a faecal sludge management project in the Eastern Samar province to prevent the spread of waterborne diseases and develop the sanitation services in the region through a fecal sludge collecting and processing system.

“Implementing the Training of Trainers has helped us reaching out to more people without the training losing in quality”

May Ann, ACTED community mobilizer

ACTED conducted a sanitation campaign to sensitize populations on different hygiene and sanitation issues, and implemented a two-days Training of Trainers (ToT) in January 2018. Based on a capacity building approach, the initiative aims at strengthening the skills of the trainees, who are already working in the field of sanitation, and ensuring the acceptance of the training by the communities. By duplicating the number of trainers, it also allowed for a greater number of beneficiaries to be reached. As a result, following the implementation of the training, more than 1,000 new beneficiaries were reached in less than a month. Covering the municipalities of Guiuan, Salcedo, Mercedes and Quinapondan, the training benefitted to 142 people counting Barangay Health Workers, Barangay Sanitary Inspectors, Barangay Nutrition Scholars and Municipal Sanitary Inspectors.



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