On 16 December, Typhoon Odette (international name ‘Rai’) swept through 11 of Philippines’ 17 regions, leaving a trail of destruction in its wake. The typhoon severely affected close to 12 million people, damaging or destroying 2 million houses, and leaving tens of thousands of people displaced.

Many lost their livelihoods, particularly those who depend on agriculture or fishing to make a living. More than 533,000 farmers and fisherfolk were affected, with total damage and losses amounting to over USD 261 million according to the Department of Agriculture.

The typhoon exacerbated an already dire food security and nutrition situation, underpinned by economic downturn due to COVID-19 (Caraga’s Gross Regional Domestic Product dropped by 7.2 percent in 2020). According to WFP’s Fill the Nutrient Gap study, many families are unable to afford a nutritious diet in Central Visayas (42 percent), Eastern Visayas (49 percent), and Caraga (53 percent) while stunting prevalence in these regions is of very high public health significance.

The Government of Philippines led humanitarian efforts in affected regions. It welcomed international humanitarian assistance and invited the humanitarian community to scale up food/cash assistance, augment logistics support, and provide emergency telecommunications services.

As one of the Philippine Government’s key partners in emergencies, WFP was among the first to respond following the onset of Typhoon Odette. WFP worked in close partnership with government authorities and communities to scale up food/cash assistance, augment logistics support, and provide emergency telecommunications services.

**RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS**

- **330,000 people** supported with cash, voucher and food assistance
- **75,000 people** supported with food assistance for assets (FFA) activities
- **USD 10 million** of cash assistance transferred
- **700,000 family food packs** transported
- **24 sites** supported with internet connectivity

As of September 2022
WFP assistance to affected communities

Working closely with the national and local government and in line with the Humanitarian Needs and Priorities (HNP), WFP launched an emergency operation to support the most affected people in Caraga, Bohol, and Southern Leyte through a combination of in-kind food, vouchers and cash assistance. This was followed by early recovery activities to support communities rebuild the livelihoods they lost.

WFP targeted the most vulnerable families within the prioritized geographic locations using a two-pronged approach. WFP first used local/national lists as the basis for targeting, including Listahanan 3 (L3). WFP then conducted cross-matching analysis against a list of criteria to ensure there were no inclusion errors (such as families with damaged houses, poor or with an income below minimum wage, female-headed households, families person with disability and/or pregnant and lactating women).

IN-KIND FOOD ASSISTANCE

WFP started by providing in-kind food assistance to affected populations in isolated islands (Dinagat Islands and Siargao Island in Caraga region) while market and connectivity was still being restored.

In-kind food assistance: WFP distributed 1,135 mt of rice to 113,000 people. Each family received 50 kg of rice. This included 50,000 people in Dinagat Islands, and 64,000 in Siargao Island. Distributions were implemented with WFP’s partner CARE.

WFP procured locally grown rice in Mindanao, which enabled cost-efficiency and proximity to delivery areas. WFP turns to local suppliers wherever possible, thereby supporting local economies.

CASH & VOUCHERS ASSISTANCE

WFP prioritized cash and voucher assistance in areas where markets were functional. WFP reached 320,000 people with cash and voucher assistance, distributing around USD 9 million (PHP 475 million) directly to beneficiaries. Cash and vouchers can be an effective and efficient path to achieve food security and nutrition results. WFP uses cash to empower people with means and choice to address their essential needs in local markets, and boost local markets through the injection of cash.
WFP distributed cash assistance in Bohol, Southern Leyte, Dinagat Islands and Siargao, while voucher assistance was distributed in Surigao del Norte.

For cash assistance, beneficiaries received a monthly transfer of USD 55 (PHP 2,900). To facilitate the implementation of the cash assistance programme, WFP transferred 2-month assistance in one payment. WFP utilised the services of one Financial Service Provider contracted under a long-term agreement as part of WFP’s preparedness measure for any onset of an emergency. WFP was able to disburse cash in most difficult and remotest areas through the agents located in local markets. Wherever this was not possible, WFP utilised the services of WFP’s partners: Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Action Against Hunger (AAH), and CARE.

For voucher assistance, beneficiaries could use their vouchers to purchase food for a value of USD 113 (PHP 5,600) per month in selected shops. Food items included rice, vegetables, eggs and meat. The transfer value was determined to cover minimal caloric requirements while at the same time ensuring dietary diversity. The voucher programme was implemented with WFP’s partner CRS.

EARLY RECOVERY ASSISTANCE

Following the immediate emergency unconditional assistance, WFP is supporting around 75,000 people through emergency food assistance for assets (FFA) in Caraga, Bohol and Southern Leyte. Participants receive cash or voucher assistance in exchange for their participation in activities. FFA activities serve the dual objective of meeting immediate food gaps, while starting to rehabilitate or repair pre-existing assets.

ACCOUNTABILITY & PROTECTION

WFP has an active community feedback mechanism (CFM) that comprises two-way feedback channels (a hotline, a dedicated email address, help desks and feedback boxes) and proactive information provision. The hotline is centrally managed by WFP staff who speak the local languages. WFP received 4,249 feedback via its CFM. Most of the cases received were positive feedback, followed by queries on the targeting criteria, and data amendment requests. All feedback received are used to inform program management and decision-making.

Protection was integrated into WFP’s program design and implementation with the goal to ensure the safety, rights and dignity of all beneficiaries. WFP ensured that activities sites were safe and easily accessible, taking into account travel distance and potential risks for women and girls in making the decision for the choice of locations.
Programme Performance and Impact

WFP uses programme monitoring and evaluation to measure outcomes and determine whether essential needs targets are being met, and then uses this data to recalibrate and optimize its programmatic interventions, and drive policy. Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) was conducted through face to face interviews. WFP interviewed 2,586 households in the five locations of WFP’s Odette emergency response.

Monitoring findings indicate that the food security situation of beneficiaries improved over the distribution monitoring period, with 97 percent of households having acceptable food consumption scores (FCS) during the recovery phase compared to 93 percent during the emergency phase. An acceptable FCS indicates that households are consuming staples and vegetables every day, frequently accompanied by oil and pulses, and occasionally meat, fish and dairy.

Households main source of food are markets across the 9 food groups (rice, beans, dairy, meat, vegetables, fruits, sugars, oils, and condiments). However, for the vegetable food group, over half of the households reported ‘own production’ as the source, indicating that the vegetable production activities are already having an impact on the household’s access to food. Households receiving cash assistance indicated they planned to use the cash to buy food, repair their houses and for medical care. Households receiving vouchers bought mainly meat, condiments, rice, oil and vegetables.

Overall a significant decrease in the average coping strategy index was observed during the recovery phase compared to the emergency phase. This can indicate lower stress levels for the households, part of it can be attributed to the assistance received. However the percentage of those employing emergency livelihood coping strategies remains the same at a concerning 18 percent. Je

Monitoring results show that virtually all beneficiaries are satisfied with how the distribution process was conducted. Almost all beneficiaries have a good knowledge about WFP assistance: they know the distribution dates, how and where they will receive assistance and what they will receive. However, some beneficiaries reported not knowing about the selection criteria (9 percent), how to make a complaint (13 percent) and when the assistance will end (37 percent). WFP will use these findings to inform and adjust program implementation.

### FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE BETWEEN DISTRIBUTION MONITORING (DM) 1 AND 2 BY PROVINCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>DM1</th>
<th>DM2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bohol</td>
<td>95.5</td>
<td>94.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinagat</td>
<td>90.6</td>
<td>86.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S Leyte</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>95.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDN Mainland</td>
<td>98.8</td>
<td>95.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDN Siargao</td>
<td>98.1</td>
<td>99.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Acceptable**
- **Borderline**
- **Poor**

### LIVELIHOOD COPING STRATEGY INDICATOR (LCSI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Households not adopting coping strategies</th>
<th>Stress coping strategies</th>
<th>Crisis coping strategies</th>
<th>Emergency coping strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Phase</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Recovery</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SOURCE OF FOOD

- Markets and stores
- Food aid received
- Own production (crops, animals)
- Fishing, hunting, gathering
- Gift (food) from relatives/neighbours
- Loan or borrowed
- Exchange labour or items for food
- Beg for food

### HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES WITH CASH ASSISTANCE (LEFT) AND FOOD VOUCHERS (RIGHT)

#### Products
- Rice
- Pulses
- Dairy
- Meats
- Vegetables
- Fruits
- Tea
- Sugars
- Condiments

#### Products Distribution
- Rice: 19%
- Meat: 25%
- Oil: 16%
- Condiments: 20%
- Vegetables: 12%
- Sezar: 9%
- Items for agriculture: 2%
- Education: 6%
- Medical care: 9%
- House repairs: 12%

### DISTRIBUTION PROCESS FEEDBACK

- Satisfied with the assistance: Yes 99.7%
- Know about distribution dates: Yes 97.7%
- Know how and where to receive assistance: Yes 97.7%
- Know exactly the entitlements: Yes 98.5%
- Know when the programme will end: Yes 55.0%
- Know entitlement restrictions: Yes 84.9%
- Know the programme selection process: Yes 89.2%
- Know how to make a complaint: Yes 79.9%
- No answer: No 0.3%, No 0.5%, No 0.3%, No 0.2%, No 8.6%, No 7.0%, No 1.5%, No 7.0%
Logistics and Telecommunications

As the lead UN agency for Logistics and Telecommunications, WFP also provided common services to facilitate relief efforts of the Government and the wider humanitarian community via telecommunications and logistics support.

TRANSPORTATION

As one of the Philippine Government’s key partners in emergencies, WFP was among the first to respond following the onset of Typhoon Odette. Within 24 hours after Odette made landfall, WFP had jumpstarted its support to the Government, through the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), by transporting the Department of Social Welfare and Development’s (DSWD) family food packs.

In total, WFP mobilized 668 trucks and transported more than 700,000 family food packs from DSWD’s packing facilities (National Resource Operations Centre in Metro Manila and Visayas Disaster Response Centre in Cebu). Nearly 100,000 family food packs were transported during the first week of the aftermath. The relief items have been delivered to various destinations affected by the typhoon, including in the regions of Eastern Visayas, Central Visayas, Western Visayas, and Caraga. These deliveries were carried out through WFP’s wide network of trusted transporters.

LOGISTICS & TELECOMMS HIGHLIGHTS

- 668 trucks dispatched to transport relief items
- 700,000 family food packs transported
- 3 logistics hubs established
- 24 sites supported with internet connectivity
- 2 MOVE sets deployed ahead of the Typhoon

STORAGE

WFP established three emergency logistics hubs in Surigao City, Siargao Island, and Dinagat Islands. Each hub was comprised of one MSU, one generator, and one prefabricated office. These hubs were managed by the Government and are supporting storage, consolidation,
and onward transport of various relief items. WFP maintains a contingency stock of MSUs and other equipment on standby in case of further requests for storage support.

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

WFP, as the lead UN agency for Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC), provided shared connectivity services to fill telecommunications gaps and to support the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) to establish communication services.

WFP established connectivity to support government and humanitarian responders in 24 sites across the affected areas (14 government and 10 humanitarian sites), with a daily average of over 600 users. Users included UN agencies, I/NGOs, government staff, and affected communities.

WFP supported DICT to install new Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSATs) and maintain existing installations across the affected areas.

WFP also supported DICT with the deployment of four Mobile Operations Vehicles for Emergencies (MOVE) sets, designed and built by WFP and handed over to DICT to help re-establish communications networks. When Typhon Odette was approaching, two MOVE units were dispatched on the typhoon forecasted track in Maasin City and Surigao City. As soon as the typhoon had passed, teams who had accompanied the MOVE sets got systems up and working, thus re-establishing telecommunications for first responders in these areas. After the Typhoon had passed, other MOVE sets were deployed to provide connectivity services in other affected locations.

**Funding**

Out of its overall requirement of USD 35.6 million, WFP has received USD 20.7 million to support its emergency response to Typhoon Odette.

Out of the USD 35.6 million required, USD 29.6 million was needed for emergency food assistance and early recovery projects, and USD 6 million for logistics and telecommunications support.

WFP thanks the **Asian Development Bank, Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Japan, Ireland, the Republic of Korea, the United States of America, the UN Central Emergency Response Fund, private sector partners, and individual donors** for their generous contributions.

**USD 20.7 million confirmed, USD 14.9 million gap.**