



2024 Typhoon Season

WFP Philippines Response Report

June 2025

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Executive Summary

In 2024, the Philippines endured an active typhoon season with six tropical cyclones that successively impacted the Luzon Island Group in 25 days. The first cyclone, severe tropical storm (STS) Kristine (international name: Trami), triggered massive flooding and landslides. This was soon followed by five typhoons (of which three were super typhoons) that compounded damages in barely recovered areas of Bicol, Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon, Cordillera Administrative Region, and Ilocos Region.

The back-to-back typhoons affected more than 16 million people across most of the country, damaged or destroyed 480,000 houses, and displaced 11 million people. Agriculture, housing, and infrastructure damage and losses are estimated at PHP 15.6 billion (US\$274 million). In the first quarter of 2025, heavy rains from the shearline kept farmers and fisherfolk from pursuing their daily livelihoods, slowing down recovery in some of the worst-hit communities.

As one of the Philippine Government's longstanding partners in emergencies, WFP was among the first to support the Government to respond in the immediate aftermath of STS

Kristine and the ensuing typhoons. With multi-partner contributions and aligned with the Humanitarian Needs and Priorities (HNP) plan, WFP worked with national and local authorities and communities to augment the Government-led response through damage and needs assessments, cash assistance, logistics, and telecommunications support. Building on years of WFP's pre-disaster capacity strengthening initiatives, as well as tapping into internal financing mechanisms, played a key role in ensuring a fast, efficient, and coordinated government response.

Primarily through national social protection programmes, WFP provided PHP 268 million (US\$4.8 million) in cash assistance for 151,350 people in five priority provinces: Albay, Aurora, Cagayan, Camarines Sur, and Catanduanes. Monitoring findings indicated that the assistance contributed to fewer households resorting to negative strategies to cope with food shortages. Furthermore, with WFP's transport support, the Government provided close to 318,000 family food packs (FFPs) and non-food items to 1.6 million people to meet their food and other urgent needs.



Using the money, I plan to cook *ginisang ampalaya* and fish and buy essential items for my family. This is a big help to us during this challenging time.

MAGDALENA AGUCA

Mother of four, Baler, Aurora



Introduction

Between late October and mid-November 2024, a record succession of six tropical cyclones hit the Philippines in 25 days. First to make landfall on 24 October 2024, severe tropical storm (STS) Kristine (international name: Trami) crossed mainland Luzon and caused widespread flooding and landslides, especially in the Bicol Region. Days after, five more typhoons arrived in succession: Leon (Kong-rey), Marce (Yinxing), Nika (Toraji), Ofel (Usagi), and Pepito (Man-Yi).

Super typhoons (STY) Ofel and Pepito crossed mainland Luzon and significantly exacerbated the impacts of the previous cyclones in barely recovered areas of Bicol, Cagayan Valley, and Central Luzon regions. The provinces of Albay, Aurora, Cagayan, Camarines Sur, and Catanduanes suffered extensive damage from strong winds, floods, landslides, and storm surges brought by these super typhoons.

Collectively, the six typhoons affected over 16 million people. Nearly 480,000 houses were damaged or destroyed, forcing millions of families to seek shelter in evacuation centres, makeshift structures, or with neighbours. More than 182,000 ha of crop fields (equivalent to 4.4 million basketball courts) were

destroyed, affecting 203,600 farmers and fisherfolk. Damage to agriculture, livestock, and infrastructure amounted to PHP 15.6 billion (US\$274 million) across 17 of 18 regions.¹

The typhoons disrupted the crop harvest season, which is normally in October and November. This created substantial pressure on the livelihoods and food security of subsistence farmers.

The Government responded swiftly by i) delivering life-saving assistance using prepositioned relief items and disaster risk management (DRM) assets in at-risk areas and ii) conducting pre-emptive evacuations in communities prone to flooding and landslides. Continuing efforts through its multi-year, multi-partner initiative: PREP (Preparedness and Response Excellence in the Philippines), where WFP supports the Government in strengthening the DRM capacities at central and local levels, contributed to the Government's prompt response with trained staff and critical emergency equipment.

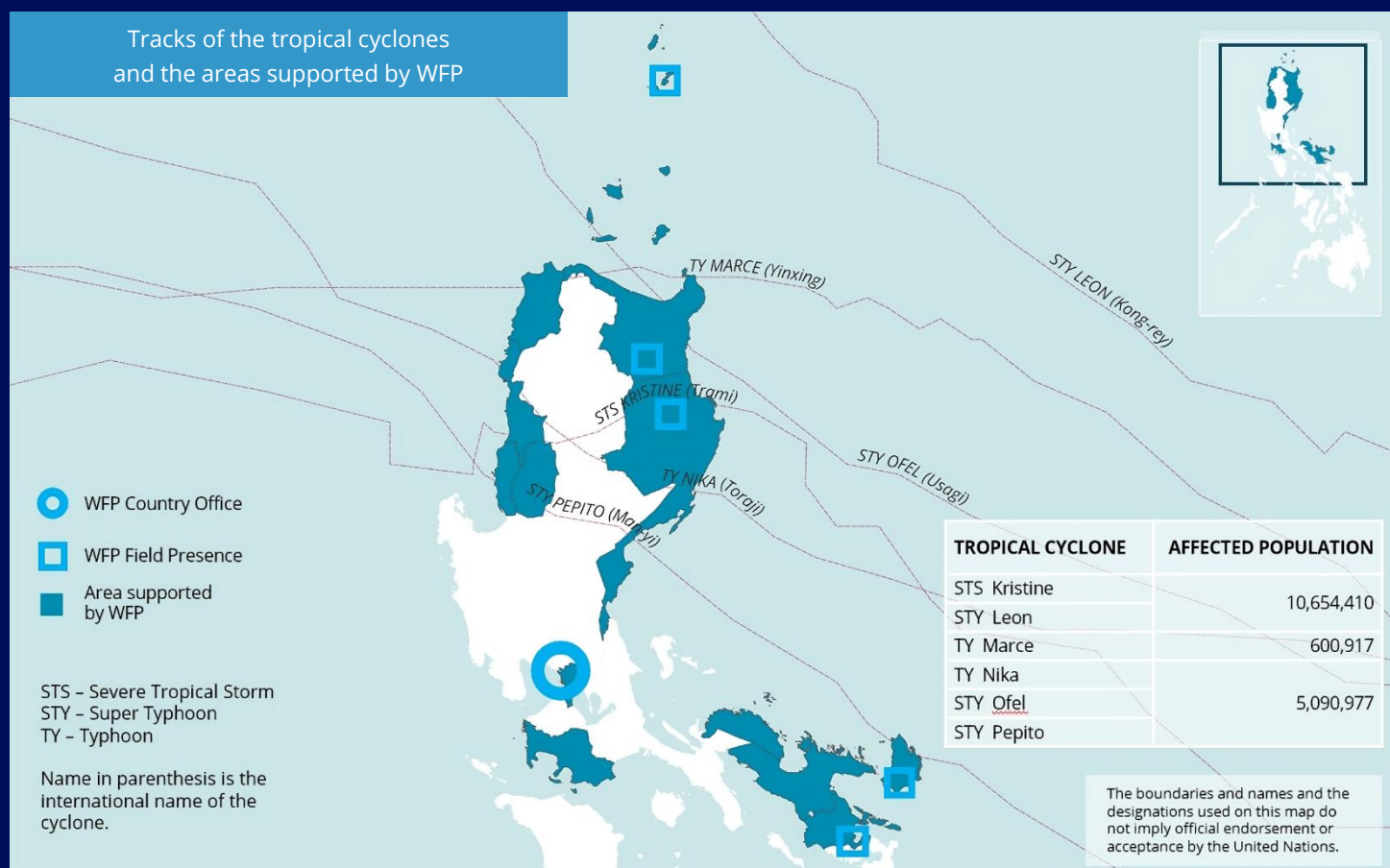
As the typhoons' compounded impacts stretched available resources, the Government requested support from the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in late October to scale up response and recovery efforts. In December 2024, the HCT published the revised HNP document, which appealed for US\$42.4 million to support 535,000

¹ Figures are based on the latest situation reports published by the Department of Social Welfare and Development and National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

people in nine Luzon provinces. Priority interventions included food security and livelihoods, among others.

A trusted partner of the Government in emergencies, WFP was among the first to respond at the sudden onset of the typhoons. WFP complemented the Government-led response through assessments and monitoring, logistics and telecommunications augmentation,

and cash assistance. By tapping into its internal emergency funding mechanism, WFP was able to immediately scale up cash transfers with the Government to support the most vulnerable populations a few days after STS Kristine hit. Of the total HNP appeal, WFP required US\$10 million to meet critical food security needs and provide logistics and telecommunications support to government efforts.

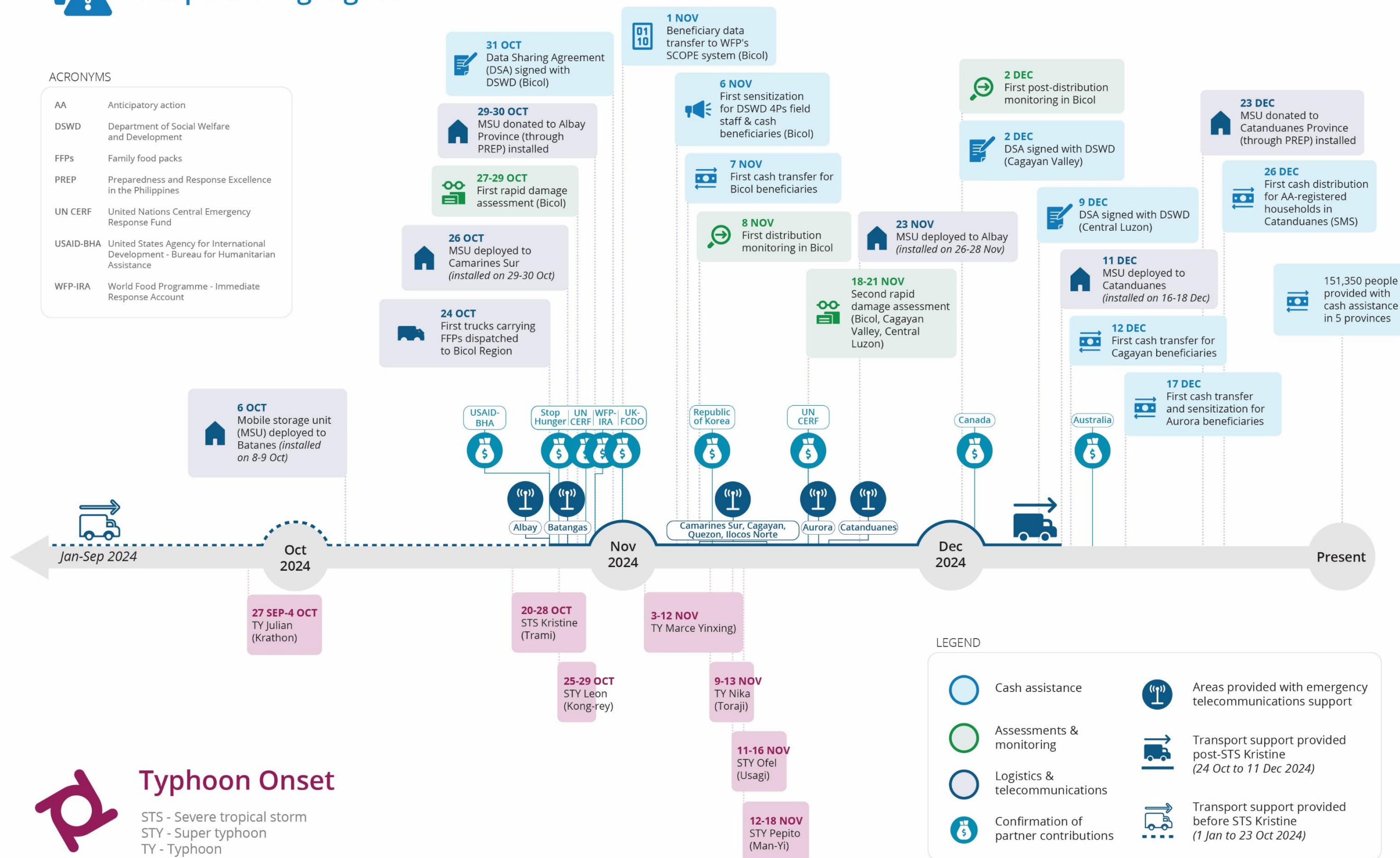




WFP 2024 Typhoon Response Highlights

ACRONYMS

AA	Anticipatory action
DSWD	Department of Social Welfare and Development
FFPs	Family food packs
PREP	Preparedness and Response Excellence in the Philippines
UN CERF	United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund
USAID-BHA	United States Agency for International Development - Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance
WFP-IRA	World Food Programme - Immediate Response Account



Response Highlights

2.6 million people*

reached with government family food packs through WFP's transport support

6,000 people

in eight provinces provided with daily internet connectivity

**1.6 million people reached during the post-Kristine response in Q4 2024 and another 1 million people reached prior to Kristine (Q1-Q3 2024)*



151,350 people

(30,270 families) in five provinces reached with cash assistance

PHP 268 million

(US\$4.8 million) worth of cash transfers provided

7 most affected provinces assessed



Through this partnership, 17,800 4Ps (Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program) families in Albay and Camarines Sur received PHP 6,600 (US\$114) each. This effort shows the power of collaboration in delivering timely support to those most in need.



NORMAN S. LAURIO

Regional Director, DSWD Field Office V

Cash Assistance



Leveraging the Government's social protection system for emergency response

To promptly augment government response operations and support early recovery, WFP collaborated with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), local government units, and partners to provide cash assistance to typhoon-affected families. This was done by using pre-existing lists of poor and vulnerable households registered in the 4Ps: *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino* Program (a national social protection programme) and the joint anticipatory action (AA) programme supported by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund.



About the 4Ps (*Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino* Program)

Launched in 2008 and institutionalized in 2019 by Republic Act No. 11310, the 4Ps is the Philippines' national poverty reduction strategy and human capital investment programme that provides conditional cash transfers to poor households to improve health, nutrition, and education.

As general criteria, 4Ps beneficiaries are households that i) are classified as poor and near-poor based on the Standardized Targeting System and the poverty threshold issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority at the time of selection, and ii) have members who are aged 0-18 years, or pregnant at the time of registration.

A few days after STS Kristine's landfall, DSWD and WFP disbursed cash to over 17,000 4Ps families in Bicol. This early distribution was possible thanks to WFP's corporate advance financing mechanism, which provide initial loans for emergency response. As more resources became available through partner contributions, WFP and DSWD scaled the cash assistance to reach **151,350 people** (30,270 families) across five provinces: Albay, Aurora, Cagayan, Camarines Sur, and Catanduanes. The total cash assistance provided amounts to PHP 268 million (US\$4.8 million).

The cash assistance prevented the food security of households from further deterioration, supported economic recovery, strengthened social protection linkages, and created a foundation on which to further strengthen social protection systems to be more shock responsive. Using the money, typhoon-affected families addressed their food and essential needs. The infusion of cash into local economies stimulated market activity and supported small businesses.



Targeting. DSWD and WFP targeted 4Ps families in Albay, Aurora, Camarines Sur, and Cagayan provinces with a high risk of food insecurity based on the Government's official disaster reporting system (DROMIC). Given available resources, families with children under 5 and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls were prioritized. In Catanduanes, WFP provided cash assistance to AA-registered households.



Transfer Value. DSWD and WFP established the cash transfer value at PHP 3,300 (US\$57) per month, which was based on 30 percent of the 2022 Minimum Expenditure Basket to cover immediate food and other urgent needs of affected people. PHP 50 (about US\$1) was allocated per transfer to cover withdrawal fees. The transfer value was coordinated with the Cash Working Group in late October 2024 at the onset of STS Kristine. Given the severity of the situation, WFP provided two-month cash assistance in one payment (PHP 6,700 or US\$114 per family) to all targeted families. Of these, almost 98,000 people (19,500 families) in Albay, Cagayan, and Camarines Sur affected by the shearline in Q1 2025 also received a third month of support (PHP 3,350).



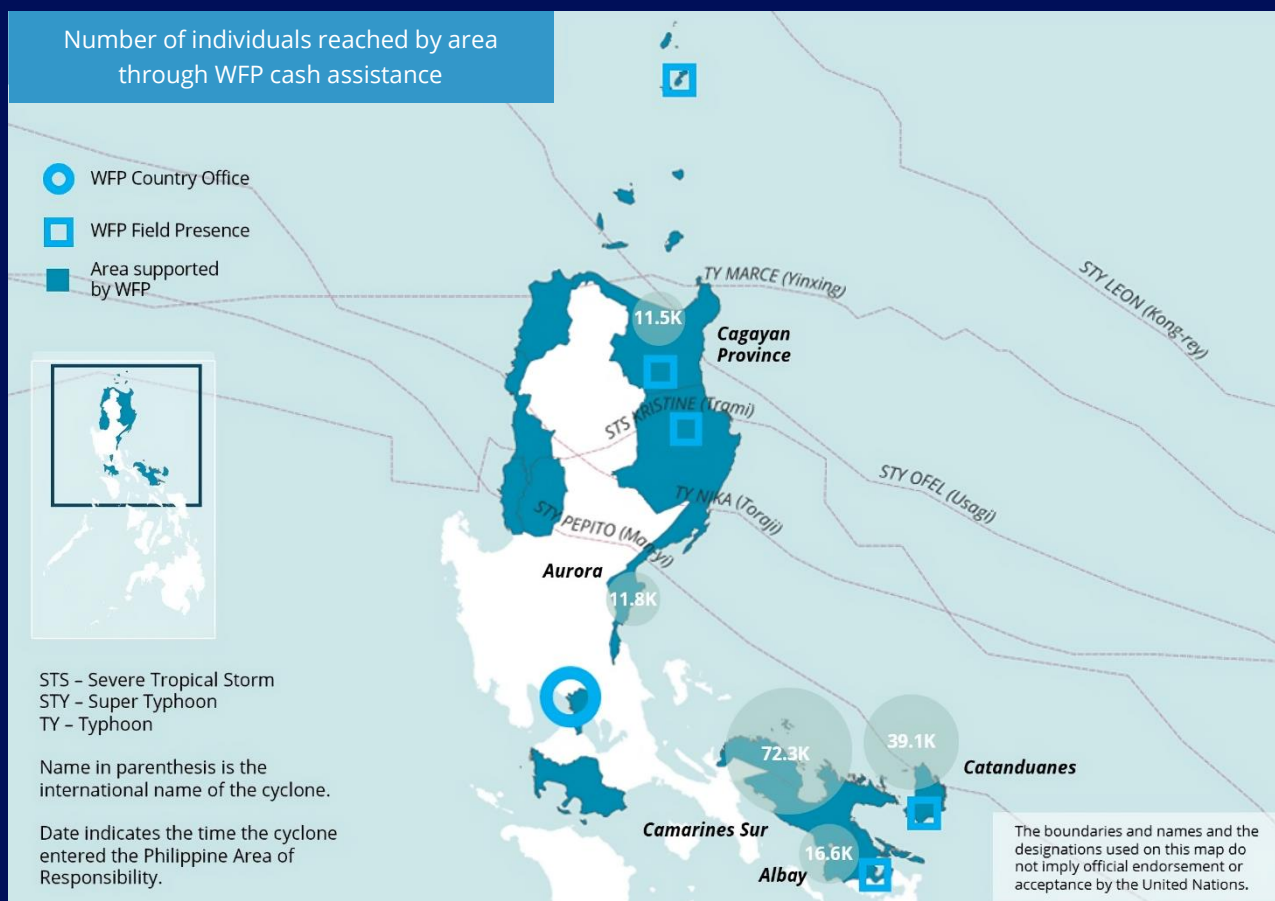
Transfer Modality. WFP signed data sharing agreements with three DSWD field offices following discussions at the national level. The first agreement was signed on 31 October 2024 in Bicol, followed by Central Luzon and Cagayan Valley. WFP ensured a secure data transfer from the Government's 4Ps database to WFP's beneficiary information and transfer management platform to further analyse the data, including reviewing potential duplications. For 4Ps beneficiaries, the cash was directly deposited into their bank accounts, eliminating the need for on-site cash distribution, reducing logistics costs, and enhancing safety and security. Beneficiaries in Catanduanes received cash either directly, through cash vouchers, or a text message with the money transfer tracking number, in coordination with WFP's cooperating partner, Catholic Relief Services (CRS).



Messaging and Sensitization. DSWD and WFP co-developed sensitization materials to i) clearly communicate the purpose of the cash assistance with local government units and beneficiaries and ii) nudge families in using the money for food, shelter, and other essential needs, particularly for their young children. WFP oriented DSWD 4Ps field staff on using the materials and strengthened their capacities in engaging with people on how to use the cash support for their overall health and well-being.



Accessing Assistance. People gained instant access to cash, as markets, ATMs, and point-of-sale (POS) systems were operational. This enabled independent purchasing decisions while simultaneously reviving the local market.



STORY

Hope after storms: WFP supports typhoon-stricken Philippines

Marissa Gonzaga, a mother from Camarines Sur, recounted the nightmare her family experienced due to severe tropical storm Kristine.

“The flood was very strong, and most of our belongings were swept away,” she says. “Our clothes. My children’s school bags. The eggs we sell for our livelihood. We couldn’t cook because our kitchen was destroyed.”

The cash assistance from DSWD and WFP provided much-needed relief, enabling Marissa to secure food for her family and restart their small egg business. “Our family is OK; there’s nothing more I could ask for,” she said.

Read more here: [Country Office Story](#)





Assessments, Monitoring, and Evaluation

Damage Assessments

To determine the extent of damage caused by the typhoons and the needs of affected communities, DSWD and WFP conducted two rapid damage assessments and needs analyses (RDANA). The [first assessment](#) was carried out in the Bicol Region on 27-29 October 2024, shortly after STS Kristine landed. Following typhoons Leon, Marce, Nika, Ofel, and Pepito, a [second assessment](#) was done in Bicol, Cagayan Valley, and Central Luzon regions on 18-21 November 2024. WFP's field presence in both Cagayan Valley and Bicol facilitated engagement with regional and LGU disaster management authorities.

The RDANA findings highlighted significant food, water, and nutrition challenges, and that access to cash was needed to buy food and restore livelihoods as markets were functional. Consultations with affected communities also indicated that people preferred cash over in-kind food. The assessments informed the prioritization of communities for WFP's cash assistance operations. Data was shared with the Humanitarian Country Team for the development of the [inter-agency assessment report](#) in November 2024.

Monitoring and Evaluation

WFP uses programme monitoring and evaluation to measure outcomes and determine whether targets are being met. This data is utilized to improve its programmatic interventions and drive policy enhancements.

Distribution- and post-distribution monitoring (PDM) were conducted through face-to-face interviews. WFP surveyed a total of 1,417 beneficiaries for distribution monitoring, and 2,058 beneficiaries for PDM from each municipality covered by the typhoon response in Bicol, Cagayan Valley, and Central Luzon.

The surveys i) assessed beneficiaries' access to assistance, ii) identified gender, disability, protection, and accountability challenges, and iii) evaluated the immediate outcomes of interventions through the following food security indicators: stress levels faced due to lack of food, food consumption, and coping strategies. The information on food security indicators collected from the distribution monitoring is used as the baseline and compared with the results from post-distribution monitoring.



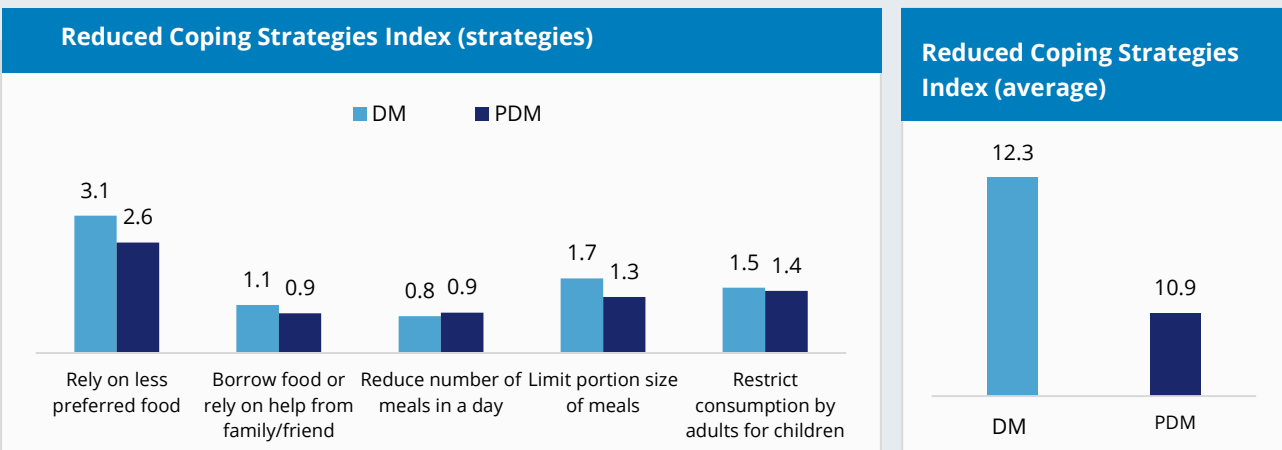
Programme Performance and Impact

Food Security Indicators*

Reduced Coping Strategies Index

The reduced Consumption-based Strategy Index (rCSI) assesses the level of stress faced by a household due to food shortages. With scores ranging from 0 to 56, a higher rCSI score indicates greater food insecurity. It measures the frequency and severity of coping mechanisms adopted due to the lack of food or lack of money to buy food. The rCSI is calculated based on five standard food consumption-based coping strategies (see the graph below).

There was a decrease in the average reduced consumption-based strategy index, from 12.3 at baseline to 10.9 in the PDM, indicating that households adopted less frequent or less extreme coping mechanisms to meet their basic food needs. The most notable improvement was the reduced reliance on less preferred foods, which dropped from 3.1 to 2.6, suggesting that families had greater purchasing power after the assistance.



Livelihood Coping Strategies Index

The results indicated an improvement in resilience as fewer families resorted to negative coping strategies following the assistance, with the Bicol Region demonstrating the most positive outcomes.

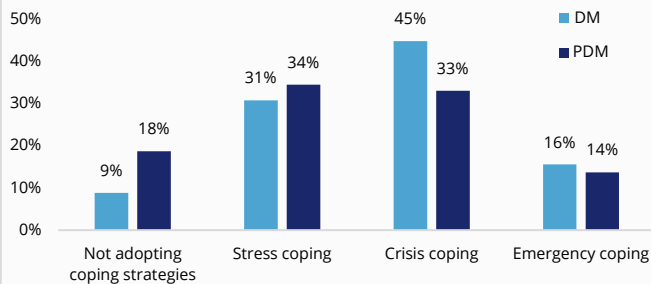
The percentage of households adopting crisis and emergency coping strategies decreased from 61 (baseline) to 47 percent in the PDM. The proportion of households not adopting negative coping strategies also doubled from 9 percent to 18 percent in the PDM. These changes suggest an improvement in the capacity of households to

manage the shock and potentially investments made in livelihoods with the cash and other support received.

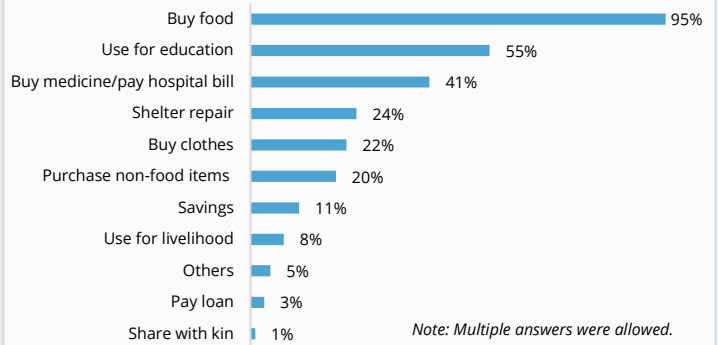
Furthermore, there was a significant reduction in the percentage of households applying crisis coping strategies (e.g., reducing health expenses and harvested immature crops) and emergency coping strategies (e.g., begging for food or money and consuming seed stock intended for next season).

*Food security indicators were collected from targeted 4Ps families in Albay, Aurora, Cagayan, and Camarines Sur.

Livelihood Coping Strategies Index - Food Security



Use of Assistance (4Ps and AA areas)



Food Consumption Score

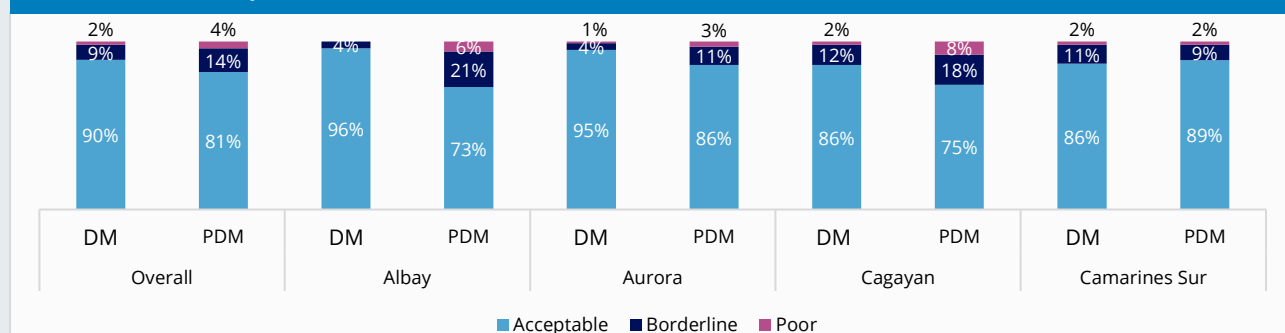
The Food Consumption Score (FCS) evaluates the households' food intake based on dietary diversity, food consumption frequency, and relative nutritional value of different food groups.

In general, monitoring findings showed a slight deterioration in FCS, partly because many households already had acceptable FCS at the baseline, thanks to food packs distributed shortly after the storm from the Government and from private individuals. The timing of data collection likely also had a strong impact on these results as a

rapid response does not allow for a true baseline. Beneficiaries would have already received cash some days before the surveys, while PDMs were conducted after the period of assistance.

Furthermore, some households used the multi-purpose cash assistance to address other essential needs like education, medical expenses, non-food items, and shelter repair. Local weather disturbances and the shearline also continued to affect most areas. These factors affected the measurement of outcomes.

Food Consumption Scores



We lost our roof and kitchen, but our kids are safe. I'll use the cash assistance to buy nutritious food. I only wish for health and safety for my family.

MICHELLE LEYMES

Mother of five, Baler, Aurora

Cross-cutting Indicators

Overall, 15 percent reported having at least one person with disability in their household (in line with the targeting criteria prioritizing people with disabilities, especially in AA programming areas).

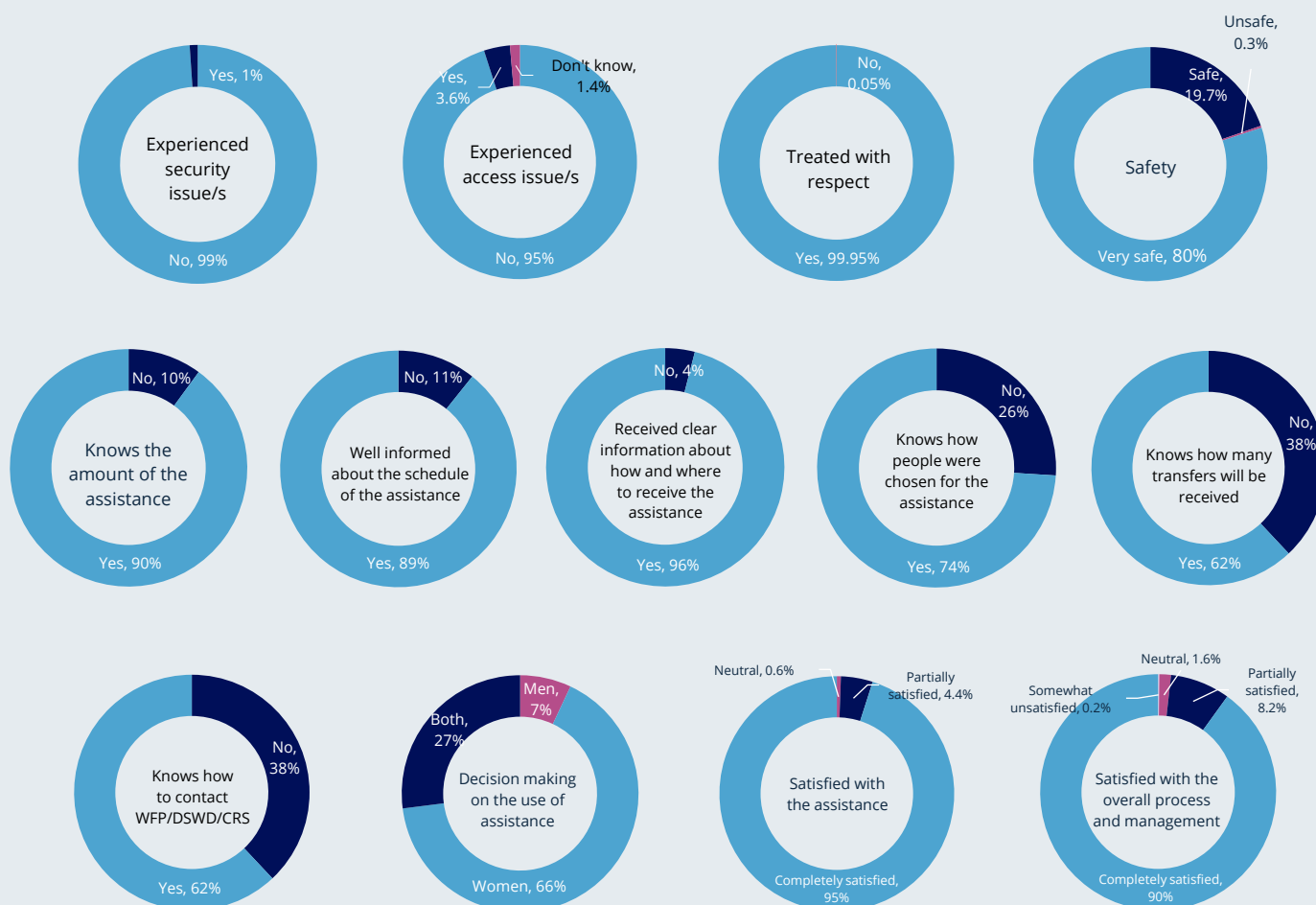
PDM findings indicated that most respondents i) did not encounter security (99 percent) or access challenges (95 percent), ii) were treated with respect (99.95 percent), and iii) were well-informed about the amount of the top-up (90 percent), schedule of assistance (89 percent), and how and where to receive/withdraw the cash (96 percent). Respondents indicated they mainly used the money for food, health expenses, education, shelter repair, clothes, and non-food items (hygiene kits, kitchen kits, and water containers).

There were lower levels of awareness regarding selection criteria (74 percent), number of transfers that will be received (62 percent), and how to provide feedback or to ask questions about the assistance (62 percent). This was generally

observed in Catanduanes, where WFP worked with a cooperating partner extending AA programming to rapid response activities. These numbers highlight the importance of conducting joint sensitization efforts with partners to provide clear information on the assistance across all areas.

Generally, 48 percent of households reported that women are usually the primary decision makers in relation to household resources. For WFP's cash assistance, there was an increase in the proportion of households (66 percent) reporting that women make the decisions on how to utilize the money received (such as what to buy, or how to spend the amount).

The majority of the respondents reported that they were completely satisfied with the assistance received (95 percent) and with the transfer process and management (90 percent). Most respondents (99.7 percent) also reported that they felt safe taking part in the assistance.



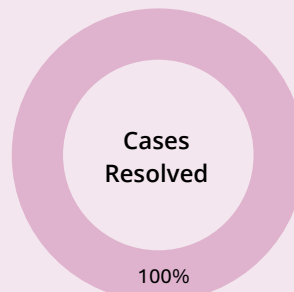
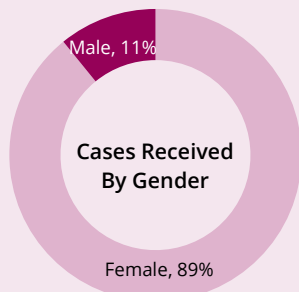
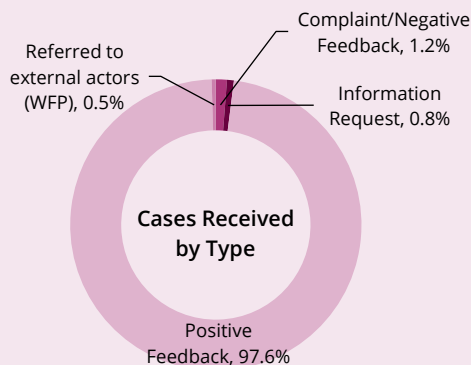
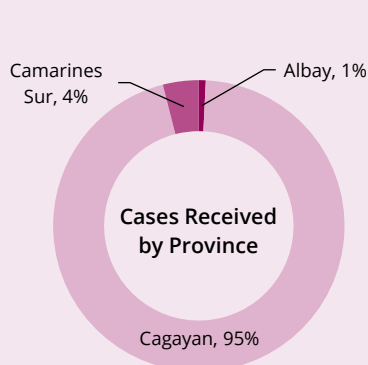
Community Feedback Mechanism

WFP leveraged DSWD's existing grievance redress system (GRS) for faster, better coordinated, and more streamlined feedback management. Joint standard operating procedures (SOPs) were developed, which established clear guidelines for prioritization, referral pathways, and timelines to effectively resolve cases. WFP collaborated with 4Ps field implementers and local authorities to address grievances and collect community feedback. Regular communication with DSWD ensured seamless collaboration and case referral, allowing for the timely management of community feedback.

The DSWD's robust protection policy is firmly grounded on the principles of the Government's data privacy and protection

law. This comprehensive framework provides WFP with the necessary assurances regarding the secure handling and protection of sensitive data.

The DSWD and WFP received 654 cases from cash beneficiaries in Bicol (Albay and Camarines Sur) and Cagayan Province through the DSWD's GRS mechanism. Most were positive feedback (98 percent), while the rest (2 percent) were information requests, complaints/negative feedback, and cases referred to WFP.² Of the total number of cases, 89 percent were submitted by women. The highest number of cases was recorded in Cagayan (95 percent), followed by Camarines Sur (4 percent) and Albay (1 percent). All cases have been successfully resolved.



² The complaints/negative feedback were concerns about the beneficiary targeting for cash assistance. The household selection of beneficiaries with children aged 0-5 years was based on the October 2024 family roster of active 4Ps members.

Emergency Logistics and Telecommunications



WFP mobilized its logistics and emergency telecommunications capabilities in support of the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) and DSWD by i) deploying trucks to deliver Government food and non-food relief items, ii) installing mobile storage units (MSUs) for secure storage of relief goods in impacted areas, and iii) providing internet connectivity for first responders and impacted populations.

Transport Support

In the immediate aftermath of each storm, WFP provided logistical support to the Government to ensure the timely delivery of FFPs and essential non-food items to over 1.6 million people. Each FFP contains various food items that can sustain a family of five for three days.

Within 24 hours after STS Kristine's landfall on 24 October, WFP swiftly mobilized trucks to transport DSWD FFPs in Bicol. During the first week of the response, WFP helped reach 325,000 people by transporting 65,000 FFPs to the provinces of Albay, Camarines Norte, and Camarines Sur.

From the impact of STS Kristine onward, WFP mobilized 200 trucks that transported 318,000 family food packs from DSWD's warehouses: the National Resource Operations Centre in Metro Manila and the Visayas Disaster Response Centre in Cebu. The trucks also transported three MSUs and various non-food items from the Office of Civil Defense (OCD).



Throughout 2024, WFP provided transport support to the Government for a total of eight emergencies, including volcanic eruptions and tropical cyclones. Around 2.6 million people (1.6 million during the typhoon responses and another 1 million for other emergencies) benefitted from 527,500 FFPs and 173 mt of non-food items delivered by 358 WFP-deployed trucks and 14 shipping containers.

Logistics Equipment

WFP augmented the Government's response capacities by loaning emergency logistics equipment. To ensure secure storage for relief supplies, WFP provided and assisted in [installing](#) three MSUs in Bicol. Each MSU can store up to 500 mt of relief goods (22,500 FFPs for 112,500 people).

The typhoon response highlighted the importance of continuing efforts to strengthen government DRM capacities to prepare and better respond to emergencies. Two MSUs previously donated to Albay and Catanduanes by WFP were installed by WFP-trained government personnel during the response. In Batanes, which was affected by super typhoon Leon (Kong-rey) in September 2024, WFP deployed an MSU to augment the local government's response.





Telecommunications

With WFP's support, the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) deployed five prepositioned [Government Emergency Communications System-Mobile Operations Vehicle for Emergencies](#) (GECS-MOVE) units during the first four weeks of the typhoon response in multiple locations.³ This innovation, co-designed by DICT and WFP, provides data connectivity to support response efforts when communication networks are down.

In addition to the GECS-MOVE sets, WFP strengthened response efforts in the Bicol Region, particularly in Catanduanes, by deploying 18 connectivity assets—including routers, satellite equipment, and point-to-point links. These assets were subsequently prepositioned with DICT Catanduanes to enhance the region's readiness for future emergencies.

The GECS-MOVE sets and connectivity assets provided internet access for 6,000 people across eight provinces. These included humanitarian responders, government authorities, and communities staying in evacuation centres.



Thanks to WFP, DICT, and MDRRMO – Pangasinan, our community now has free Wi-Fi access – bringing vital connectivity closer to people.

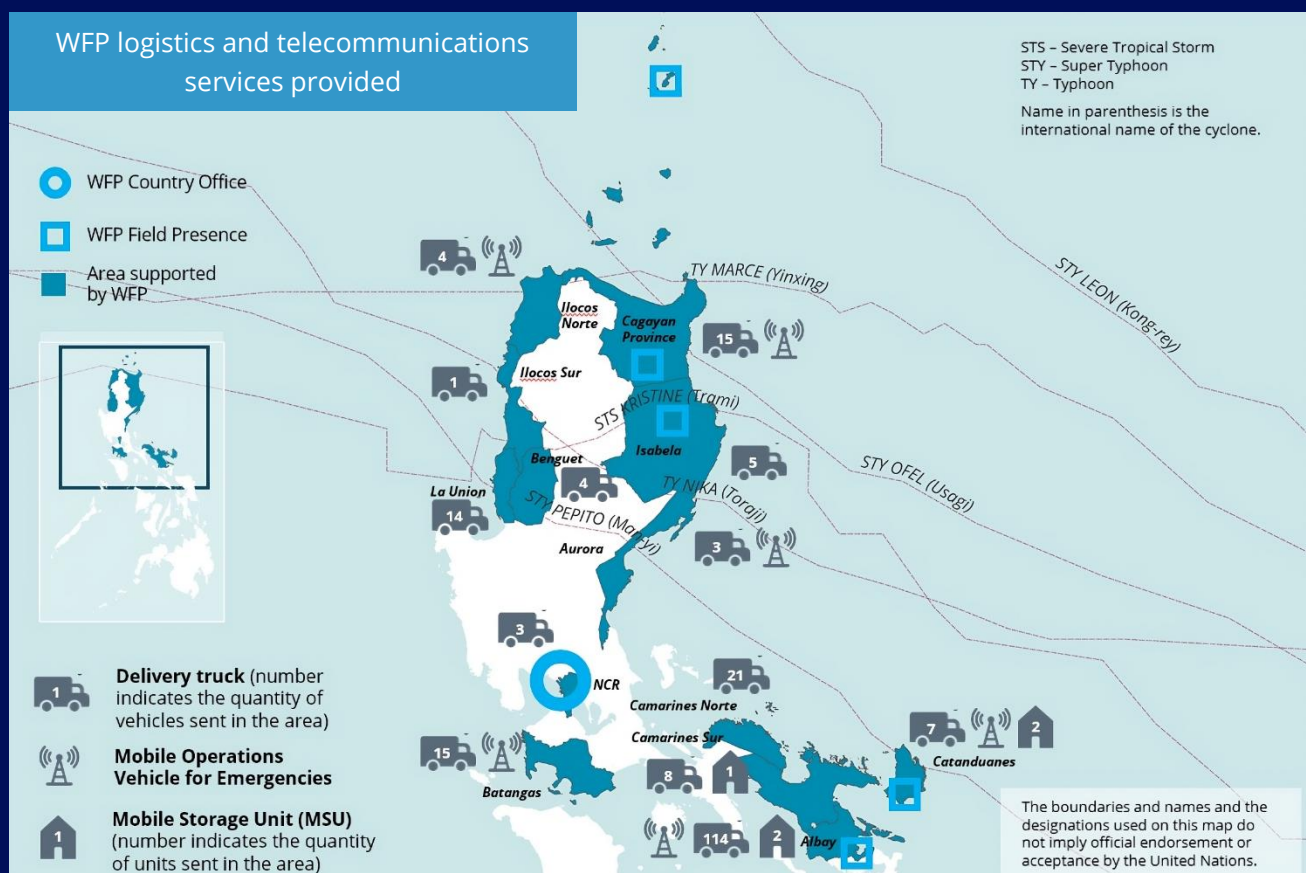
LGU Pangasinan, Catanduanes
[Facebook post](#), 27 November 2024

³ The DICT deployed GECS-MOVE units across seven provinces: Albay, Aurora, Batangas, Cagayan, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, Ilocos Norte, and Quezon.

Government Capacity Strengthening

WFP's response builds on its ongoing PREP work at central and local levels, which aims to continuously increase the threshold at which the Government requires external support and resources. These investments in strengthening DRM systems and capacities have proven critical in ensuring a coordinated and efficient response to the typhoons.

The knowledge, skills, and assets transferred through PREP have positively contributed to the Government's typhoon response. Using strategically prepositioned relief items and DRM assets, the Government was able to rapidly deliver life-saving aid to impacted communities. For instance, government responders in Bicol who previously received training from WFP successfully installed MSUs provided through PREP before the storms, while access was only possible by air.





Lessons Learned and Ways Forward

To analyse the strengths of the response, identify challenges and areas for improvement, and generate actionable insights for future emergencies, WFP organized a series of consultations, including internal and external after-action reviews (AAR). The internal AAR was participated in by WFP staff in February 2025, followed by a joint AAR with DSWD in March 2025, which focused on the cash operations.

Cash Assistance

The joint AAR with DSWD aimed to i) assess the typhoon response operations utilizing the 4Ps, ii) identify challenges and opportunities for future collaboration, and iii) develop policy recommendations to ensure the shock-responsiveness of the 4Ps and other government social protection programmes. The AAR convened government representatives from the DSWD Central Office and field offices in Bicol, Cagayan, and Central Luzon, as well as WFP staff.

Discussions highlighted the need for policy adjustments to incorporate shock-responsive measures, streamlined implementation mechanisms for expedited response, and

enhanced engagement with local government units to ensure efficient last-mile delivery. Recommendations based on lessons learned focused on the strategic and operational levels:

Strategic Level

Advocating for a risk-layered approach by matching different types of risks with appropriate tools or financing mechanisms.

A layered approach to DRM is essential to ensure more comprehensive, timely and inclusive responses to future shocks. This approach requires the Government to develop systems that integrate and coordinate across multiple programmes, sectors, and stakeholders.

Incorporating emergency cash assistance into 4Ps. The 4Ps *force majeure* policy suspends conditionalities and allows beneficiaries to receive their full grants during natural disasters, following the declaration of a national or local state of calamity. Given the positive outcomes of the cash intervention, there is considerable potential to utilize the 4Ps system to support the poorest households by allocating budget within the DSWD for emergency cash assistance to 4Ps beneficiaries affected by natural disasters. This could supplement the regular grants received by households under the programme, to address their needs.

Establishment of a national data sharing agreement. To improve coordination on adaptive and shock-responsive social protection initiatives, it is recommended that DSWD and WFP enter into a national data sharing agreement. This agreement would be activated in anticipation of an imminent disaster (AA) or during rapid response operations. It would be institutionalized through an SOP that guides programme implementation at the sub-national level.

Digitalizing the DROMIC System for enhanced efficiency. To ensure swift incident management reporting and data collection, the DROMIC system should establish a digital information system that can be deployed to sub-national offices, accompanied by appropriate capacity-strengthening measures and interventions.

Exploring flexible digital payment solutions. Diversifying payment options is recommended to provide a comprehensive and adaptable financial service and enhance financial inclusion for marginalized populations, such as 4Ps families. This entails updating the banking features of transaction accounts to cater to the specific needs of the beneficiaries, thereby ensuring seamless and efficient transactions. Additionally, the integration of mobile wallets will offer a more accessible and user-friendly platform for cash payouts, promoting financial literacy among beneficiaries.

Replicating the system for AA cash intervention. The DSWD and WFP have demonstrated that an established database system profiling beneficiaries, along with an existing transfer mechanism and an operational digital payment solution, significantly enhances the efficiency, reach, and disbursement of cash assistance prior to the landfall of a typhoon. This system developed by the DSWD and WFP serves as an exemplary mechanism for AA cash intervention.

Operational Level

Establishment of clear institutional arrangements. It is imperative to clearly articulate the roles of DSWD offices as well as local government offices for a more efficient and

streamlined response. There should be clear delineation of the responsibilities of various offices in data transfer, sensitization, distribution monitoring, and grievance redress management for WFP, DSWD, and local government units (LGUs).

Preparation of sensitization materials. Draft and provide communication materials in both English and Filipino, with regional offices responsible for translating these materials into local languages and dialects as well as adapting them for local context, as necessary. Explore other channels or communication tactics to ensure broader and inclusive reach, such as video recording for those who may have reading difficulties. Furthermore, the conduct of sensitization activities should be prioritized to ensure community members receive clear, simple, and consistent information aligned with WFPs' messaging or communication standards.

Transfer value. Set a pre-determined transfer value which will serve as a reference for organizations implementing multi-purpose or sector-specific cash-based transfers based on existing approved Minimum Expenditure Basket rates established through coordinated discussion between the Government and the national Cash Working Group, plus provision for transportation expense to claim assistance. WFP should encourage the DSWD and other relevant government institutions to join the national Cash Working Group as permanent members to ensure cross learning and alignment with government context.

Geographical and beneficiary targeting. The continued utilization of the DROMIC Report for geographical targeting and the Pantawid Information System for beneficiary targeting is recommended. It is advised to review the criteria for beneficiary selection to account for vulnerable populations within 4Ps who are disproportionately affected during emergencies, including single-parent households, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and Indigenous Peoples.

Establishment of workable timelines. Following the establishment of the national DSA, it is essential to develop a feasible timeline for

programme implementation. This should account for the necessary preparations for setting up the intervention, coordination, sensitization, transfer, monitoring efforts, etc.

Coordination with local authorities. During emergency response, it is crucial for humanitarian actors (including the Government, non-government organizations, and UN entities) operating on the ground to ensure that resources are allocated properly, and assistance reaches those most in need. To achieve this, all key stakeholders should consistently liaise with LGUs.

The findings from the external AAR will be instrumental in developing a roadmap for technical assistance, to support the Government in strengthening adaptive and shock-responsive social protection systems.

WFP Readiness

Partnership and coordination with Government. WFP's response to the 2024 typhoon season was built on strong partnership and collaboration with the Government, made possible through ongoing

preparedness efforts and capacity strengthening initiatives under PREP. These pre-existing partnerships at the central and local levels enabled a coordinated and efficient response, ensuring that assistance reached the most affected communities promptly. Furthermore, leveraging its strong partnership with the Government, WFP was able to tap into the existing national social protection programme (4Ps) to directly target vulnerable households for its cash operations.

Resource mobilization. WFP's use of strategic financing mechanisms enabled its timely and effective response. By utilizing its internal emergency funding mechanism, WFP was able to reach more than 85,000 people (17,000 families) with cash assistance a few days after STS Kristine made landfall, before the launch of the inter-agency HNP document. Building on the success of the initial cash transfers and with field visibility, WFP secured 70 percent of its funding appeal through timely advocacy with donors and partners. WFP continues to advocate for flexible unearmarked funding and the potential to further explore private sector donors.



“

I was able to buy a sack of rice and finally pay the doctor after my accident during STS Kristine. Thank you so much, WFP – this cash truly helped us when we needed it the most.

TERESA BARILLO

Barangay Del Rosario, Baao, Camarines Sur

Operational efficiency and cost effectiveness.

The use of the 4Ps demonstrated significant gains in operational efficiency and cost-effectiveness by leveraging the Government's existing social protection infrastructure, particularly its pre-validated beneficiary lists. With targeted beneficiaries already holding active bank accounts, WFP was able to deliver cash assistance rapidly to 151,350 people (30,270 households) through secure, real-time digital transfers using WFP's corporate payment platform, plugPAY, eliminating the need for field-level registration or verification. This streamlined approach reduced lead times, administrative overhead, and logistical complexity. Additionally, plugPAY enabled faster reconciliation and accurate financial reporting. Overall, the cost per beneficiary was significantly lowered while also providing a safer, faster, and more dignified form of assistance. WFP will expand its partnerships with financial service providers to increase the quality of cash assistance and yield cost savings.

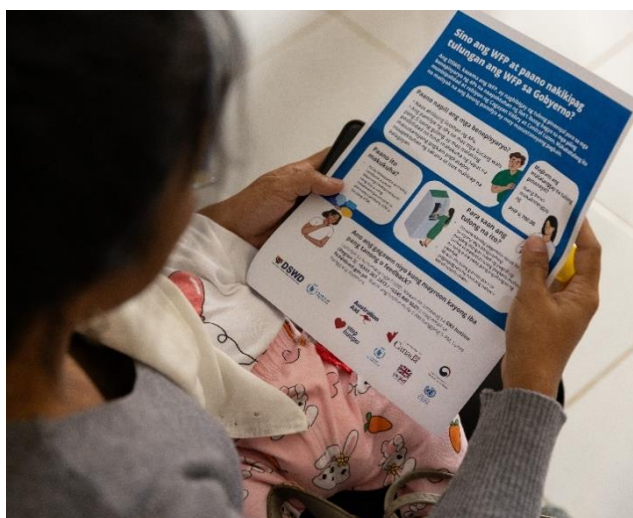
Logistics. WFP's logistics readiness was supported by early training of government staff, availability of standby funds, and strong partnerships with OCD and DSWD, allowing for the prompt deployment of trucks to transport government relief items. Ahead of the typhoon season, WFP donated MSUs to PREP priority provinces and trained government staff in installing and dismantling the units. In Albay and Catanduanes, WFP-trained provincial authorities were self-sufficient in setting up the MSUs. This proactive approach ensured that critical logistics infrastructure was in place to support relief efforts.

To further enhance preparedness, WFP will continue updating the Logistics Capacity Assessments (LCAs) and maintaining strong partnerships with key government agencies, including the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the OCD. WFP will explore the use of other transportation modes in addition to truck-based land transport, including air and sea freight where appropriate, however additional resources will need to be identified to ensure standby funds are available to support Government request for transport augmentation.

Emergency telecommunications. WFP's response was strengthened by effective coordination with government agencies and global partners. With WFP's support in emergency telecommunications, the Government deployed five GECS-MOVE sets to the impacted areas. Going forward, WFP will work with DICT to further strengthen the technical capabilities of local responders in developing emergency telecommunications policies and protocols.

Assessments and monitoring. WFP's response was enabled by a strong cadre of staff ready to be deployed for data gathering and monitoring. This whole-of-office approach allowed for a comprehensive understanding of the evolving situation on the ground, ensuring that response efforts were recalibrated based on data and evidence. With many beneficiaries possessing mobile phones and becoming increasingly capable of using online applications, WFP will explore options for remote monitoring along with DSWD.

Community feedback mechanism. Using the existing 4Ps platform allowed WFP to tap into and strengthen DSWD's GRS. WFP and DSWD worked on SOPs to further enhance coordination among government counterparts and ensure consistency of data flow and processing. WFP will explore opportunities to further support data gathering and the timely resolution of cases and feedback.





Funding

WFP mobilized **US\$6.8 million** in contributions of its US\$10 million overall requirement to support the Government's typhoon response. WFP's rapid response at the onset of STS Kristine and successive typhoons was made possible by its **Immediate Response Account (IRA)**, an internal corporate emergency funding mechanism. Resources mobilized through the IRA helped kickstart cash transfers a few days after STS Kristine made landfall, while fundraising efforts were ongoing.

On 26-27 March 2025, WFP, UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), and DSWD, led a mission in Bicol with delegates from Australia, Canada, the Republic of Korea, and the United Kingdom. The mission showcased the impact of multi-partner support for the typhoon response. Delegates met with beneficiaries to hear about their experience and local authorities to discuss the effectiveness of leveraging social protection programmes in emergency response.

During a tour of the DSWD regional warehouse in Albay, delegates learned about the Government and WFP's collaboration on emergency logistics and telecommunications (including the GECS-MOVE, mobile storage unit, a mobile kitchen, and WFP transportation support).

WFP thanks its partners for their generous contributions: the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; the Central Emergency Response Fund; the Global Affairs Canada; the Republic of Korea; the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office; the United States Agency for International Development's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance; and Stop Hunger (and its founding partner Sodexo), a private sector partner.

Funding requirements

 US\$10 million REQUIRED BY WFP	 Cash assistance US\$9.5 million
	 Logistics US\$500,000
	 Telecommunications US\$50,000

US\$6.8 million fundraised

US\$3.2 million
funding gap



Photo Credits

Cover Photo: With the cash assistance from DSWD and WFP, a family in Dinadiawan, Aurora will be able to buy food and rebuild their house which was destroyed by super typhoon Pepito (Man-Yi). © WFP/Earvin Perias

Page 3: Families with children under 5 registered under 4Ps received cash support from WFP. © WFP/Earvin Perias.

Page 4: WFP/Earvin Perias

Page 5: WFP staff conducted damage assessment in Aurora Province after super typhoon Pepito. © WFP/Arlene Robles

Page 8: Photo of a beneficiary withdrawing cash assistance from the ATM. © WFP/Earvin Perias

Page 9: Myrnalyn Padua from Sitio Bitagan in Bato, Catanduanes is pictured with her family after receiving cash assistance. Her husband could not go fishing recently due to persistent rains, making it difficult for them to make ends meet. With the cash assistance, Myrnalyn says she will buy a sack of rice and healthy food for their family. © WFP/Bea Iglesia

Page 11: People in Cagayan received information on DSWD and WFP's cash assistance through sensitization sessions. © WFP/Nicole Pagulong

Page 12: Typhoon-survivor Gonzaga family stands in front of their home, which was flooded during severe tropical storm Kristine. © WFP/Earvin Perias

Page 13: WFP conducted a rapid damage assessment and needs analysis in Naga City in the aftermath of STS Trami (Kristine). © WFP/Earvin Perias

Page 14: WFP conducted a rapid damage assessment and needs analysis in Tiwi, Albay in the aftermath of STY Man-Yi (Pepito) © WFP/Earvin Perias

Page 16: WFP/Earvin Perias

Page 19: Photo of the GECS-MOVE and mobile storage unit. © WFP/Dale Rivera

Page 20:

(Upper left) Trucks carrying FFPs are on their way to the Bicol Region at the height of STS Trami (Kristine). © WFP/Earvin Perias

(Lower left) Through WFP's transport support, additional DSWD FFPs were delivered to typhoon-hit communities in Bicol. © WFP/Carlo Buning

(Lower right) WFP and the local government units set up mobile storage units to temporarily store FFPs in the Bicol Region. © WFP/James Mallapre

Page 21: WFP/Earvin Perias, LGU Panganiban - Catanduanes

Page 22: WFP and the local government units set up a mobile storage unit to temporarily store FFPs in the Bicol Region. © WFP/Earvin Perias

Page 23: WFP engaged with families from Calabanga, Camarines Sur in a focus group discussion on the aftermath of super typhoon Pepito. © WFP/Earvin Perias

Page 25: WFP/Herlyn Orosca

Page 26: A cash beneficiary reads through the sensitization material co-developed by DSWD and WFP. The handout includes information on how to contact DSWD in case of questions or feedback on the assistance. © WFP/Earvin Perias

Page 27: WFP and UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) in partnership with DSWD, led a mission for development partners in typhoon-affected areas of Bicol Region. © WFP/Dale Rivera

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