

EMERGENCY RESPONSE REPORT TD MEGI



Asia Pacific Alliance for Disaster
Management -Philippines

PROJECT DURATION:
May 10, 2022 ~ June 30, 2022

Project Title	Typhoon Megi “Agaton” Emergency Response in Leyte
Project period	May 10, 2022~ June 30, 2022
Project area	Baybay City and Abuyog, Leyte, Eastern Visayas Region, Philippines
Beneficiaries	243 families or 1415 individuals
Project budget	JPY700,000 (Approximately PHP297,000)
Total expenditure Balance	P 225, 233.00 P 71, 767.00
Funds raised by the National Platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Operational costs for carrying out DNCA ● 20 buckets from partners in the Bicol Region. ● Logistic support from KMJ express.
Organization	A-PAD PH
Project Officer	Athea Penaloza
Project Supervisor	Hyunsook Yun
Project Changes	N/A

Background

On April 4, 2022, a Low-Pressure Area (LPA) was seen in Eastern Samar, affecting portions of Mindanao. On April 9, the LPA developed into a Tropical Depression and was locally known as “Agaton.” On April 10, 2022, “Agaton” intensified into a Tropical Storm as it moved west northwestward over the coastal waters of Guiuan, Eastern Samar, and then it weakened back to a Tropical Depression on April 12.

However, as a result of the combined effects of land interaction, vertical wind shear, and the effects of another tropical cyclone named Malakas, TS Agaton brought heavy rains, resulting in severe flooding and landslides, primarily in the Visayas Region. There were 554 areas reported to have been affected by



flooding, and 71 areas were reported to have had rain-induced landslides.

According to the Philippines' National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), 178 people have died (156 of which are in Eastern Visayas), 111 are missing, and 8 others have been injured. As per the latest reports on April 21, there are approximately 599,596 families affected, or more than 2 million individuals in 9 regions and 33 provinces.



Most heavily affected is Central Leyte, where the devastating landslide claimed the lives of 156 people, while more than 100 are still missing. The rain-induced landslides have totally altered the landscape of affected barangays in Baybay and Abuyog Leyte, destroying houses as well as farming and fishing communities.

In addition, the Department of Agriculture reported that Agaton's cost of damage to agriculture had reached PHP639.7 million. High-value crops, corn, and rice are among the commodities that have been destroyed.

A-PAD PH, through its newly established Human Resource Network (*HRN*), was deployed on the ground to conduct situation and needs assessments. HRN is a pool of individual volunteers and volunteer groups who are willing to participate in A-PAD PH programs and are expected to augment the human resource capacity of A-PAD PH, especially during emergencies.

Right after their area visit, HRN Eastern Visayas was requested to present their gathered data through Zoom with A-PAD staff, HRN Bicol, and partners from Central Luzon and Ilocos and from the Chambers of Commerce in Bicol, Davao, Cebu, and South Cotabato.



Similarly, a donation drive was launched through social media, with HRN Eastern Visayas collaborating with other youth organizations and Ormoc City National High School.

Achieved Objectives

The project objectives were met. A-PAD PH distributed 81 water filters with buckets to the affected barangays in Baybay, Leyte in the Eastern Visayas Region. These addressed the need to provide free, clean, and safe drinking water for the survivors of TS Agaton.

The relief operation is a collaborative effort of the partners on the ground. It also gave



an opportunity for A-PAD PH human resource network volunteers to become consolidated and active.

Project Outputs

A-PAD PH, together with its Human Resource Network (HRN) volunteers and partners on the ground, led three batches of distribution of 81 water buckets in Baybay City and Abuyog in Leyte. Sixty-one (61) buckets were supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, while the other 20 buckets were given by Albayanihan, a partner and member of the HRN in the Bicol Region.

The first wave of distribution was on April 23, 2022. A-PAD Philippines and HRN volunteers went to Baybay City to distribute water filter



buckets. Twenty-one (21) water filters with buckets were distributed in two evacuation centers, namely Baybay City Senior High School and Baybay City Night High School. Approximately 164 families from Brgy. Kantagnos and Brgy. Mailhi are expected to benefit from the water filters.

The second wave of distribution took place on May 28, 2022. Forty (40) water filter buckets were distributed to four (4) farmer associations in Barangays Kan-ipa, Kantagnos, Mailhi, and Bunga, of which each received ten (10) buckets. The third wave of distribution was held on June 18, 2022, in Brgy Lawaan and Buenavista.



An orientation was organized to instruct recipients on how to use and care for the water filter at the time of distribution. Likewise, there was also a discussion on the importance of sanitation and hygiene to keep their families and community healthy and free from waterborne diseases.

In order to make the water buckets more available for all association members and even the neighborhood, the farmers decided during the distribution to place them in common areas in each location with a nearby water pump or deep well.

Moreover, the president of the farmers' association in Barangay Bunga plans to put the water bucket in the elementary school for the pupils and teachers and one in the barangay hall for the use of the whole community.

KMJ Express, new partner in Eastern Visayas involved in the trucking business, provided free logistical needs to transfer the buckets from the Tacloban airport to Ormoc City.

Project Impact

Objective 1: To distribute water filters with buckets to the affected barangays in Baybay Leyte

Through this project, A-PAD PH with the support of the government of Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), was able to provide free, clean, and safe drinking water to the survivors of TS Agaton in Baybay City and Abuyog, Leyte.



The farmer-beneficiaries were very grateful for the items received, especially since there is an urgent need for clean and safe drinking water. Prior to the

distribution, a container of mineral water would cost them P35, and it could only last for two to three days. But thanks to the water filter, they are now able to save at least P100 per week, which they may use as a supplement to their existing budget for food and other household needs.

With proper orientation on how to use the filters and discussion on water safety, waterborne diseases like diarrhea, cholera, and typhoid fever will now be reduced if not totally avoided.



The discussion taught the beneficiaries the importance of sanitation and hygiene in maintaining their health. The simple gesture of washing hands before meals goes a long way toward preventing diseases. Hence, related morbidity and mortality rates can be minimized if not eliminated.

Likewise, the issue of access to clean drinking water also has a gender dimension. The water filters will lessen the burden on women and children of fetching drinking water from other barangays.

The water filtration unit, which has a 5-year lifespan, is a sustainable way of providing potable water to households affected by the recent typhoons.

Objective 2: To support and join the ongoing efforts of partners on the ground.

By supplementing the partners' efforts on the ground, the relief operation continued the stakeholders' collaboration.

The project also highlighted the inter-regional aid assistance of partners from Bicol and Eastern Visayas regions where



partners from Bicol regions immediately call for donations and raised 20 water buckets that were sent to Baybay City.

The immediate response of the volunteers to conduct damage, needs, and capacity assessment provided a clear picture of what is the actual situation on the ground. Hence, the distribution of the buckets is based on the actual need in the area.



It also provided an opportunity for A-PAD PH human resource network volunteers to strengthen their commitment and become active.

During the feedback session with HRN Eastern Visayas, they feel delighted that they were able to help the people in Baybay City. They also expressed their gratitude to A-PAD PH for organizing this network because their individual desire to help was turned and consolidated into one big effort.

HRN volunteers in the process have developed skills on implementing and managing disaster response. It was observed that the leaders had initiatives in taking up tasks in planning and actual implementation.

The project also gave a chance to new partners like KMJ Express to participate in this kind of endeavor, expanding their corporate social responsibility to others.

Lessons Learned

Dedicated and passionate volunteers contributed to the success of project implementation and management. The immediate response of volunteers in conducting the DNCA and recommending the appropriate need helped the A-PAD PH National Office decide the kind of response to provide.



In addition, the collaboration between partners transcends from one region to another. Inter-regional cooperation was established.

Planning and coordination are important in the success of project implementation and management.

The Seminar on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) during the distribution of the water filter buckets went a long way towards preventing diseases.

The project also helped in expanding the A-PAD network.

Recommendation

A-PAD PH should continue to collaborate with partners to gather resources from the private sector, government agencies, and local and international socio-civic organizations.

A-PAD PH HRN volunteers' commitment and capacities should be strengthened.