



## TYPHOON SENDONG/FLASH FLOOD RELIEF OPERATION

Date of Disaster Occurrence: Dec. 16-17, 2011  
Primary Disaster Areas: Cagayan de Oro City and Iligan City  
Local Partners: Cagayan de Oro Evangelical Ministers Association (COEMA)  
Iligan Ministers Association (IMA)  
Period of Report: Dec. 21 to 31, 2011

### I. Accomplishments:

- a. Relief Assistance:
  - 300 Families in Cagayan de Oro (Acacia and Balulang) provided with 1 cooking pot, 1 frying pan and 4 kilos of rice (per family), worth P550.
  - 300 families in Iligan City (Santiago and Tubod) provided with 5 kilos of rice, canned goods, noodles, milk, coffee, sugar, cooking oil, soap and laundry detergent (per family), worth P450.
- b. Coordination with local partners (COEMA and IMA) discussing progress of working with government agencies and different groups, relief procedures, ocular inspection, surveys, needs identification.
- c. Planning for future actions (maintenance of provision, recovery and rehabilitation).
- d. Church volunteers in both cities amply provided manpower in assisting floods victims, comforting families, repackaging and distribution of relief goods.



### II. Report Updates:

- a. Cagayan de Oro.
  - COEMA spearheaded the organization of the Kagay-an Evangelical Disaster Response Network (KEDRN) which would coordinate response actions of evangelical groups including PCEC-PHILRADS, IDRN, Operation Blessing, OC, MCMF and COEMA.



- KEDRN represents the evangelicals in the multi-sector committee that discuss relief and rehab issues.
- Rev. Genesis Udang was elected Executive Director of KEDRN.
- KEDRN has set-up a Command Center at the Celebration International Church (Pastor Alex Eduave), with the Blessed Hope Christian Ministry as the warehouse/ distribution center.
- KEDRN has also organized a Secretariat and established a monitoring system (electronic and bulletin board) for easy access of information by the public.
- To date, KEDRN has served about 7,000 families (distinct) with about 10,000 relief packages ranging from rice and other food items to drinking water, to mats and blankets and cooking utensils.
- TV5 channeled its relief assistance through KEDRN (the TV network has no manpower complement in the city).
- Medical missions started in at least three areas.
- There are still about 5,000 families whose names were submitted by local churches who were not yet served.
- Some denominations have their own operations channeled through their local churches, like Christ Faith Fellowship serving 400 families (per Rev. Bantigue) and Free Methodist Church (per Bishop Jim Tuan).
- KEDRN has not served the evacuation centers yet, since the government assistance is focused on these areas.
- There are still thousands of families who are staying in their communities, cleaning up and repairing their homes. Most of them have not been served yet.





- Prevailing problems/Issues:
  - o Need for **drinking water**. The city water system was also destroyed in the flooded areas, and no progress yet on its restoration. Residents depended on rationed water or on busted pipes for drinking.
  - o Leptosporiasis and other water-borne diseases are prevalent in flooded areas, with water supply contaminated.
  - o Church volunteers cleaned up houses of church members. **Cleaning teams and cleaning materials** are also needed.
  - o **Medical and trauma counseling** assistance needed.
  - o Most families have not yet gone back to work, hence **food** is still a big need.
  - o Classes have already started and the schools have asked the evacuees to vacate the classrooms.
  - o Evacuees started to camp out in school grounds, public areas and even sidewalks, needing **tarps and other cover materials**.
  - o KEDRN identified **temporary shelter** as an urgent need.
  - o KEDRN also identified churches (buildings) as needing repairs and facilities and equipment needing replacement.
- Relocation:
  - o The city government ordered that some areas like Isla de Oro and those directly along the river banks be vacated of any settlement.
  - o The government and multi-sector task force, in which KEDRN is a member, has started discussing permanent relocation sites.
  - o There are a number of sites offered for permanent resettlement, by the city government, Xavier U, provincial government and NHA, totaling about 30 hectares.
  - o One area (about 3 has.) is being prepared for temporary resettlement and tents have already been set up for 400 families.
  - o KEDRN pastors who attended the meetings said that there were “too much politics” involved.





b. Iligan City

- Iligan City is devastated as much as Cagayan de Oro, if not more so. The area of destruction in the city is much larger.
- The IMA through Pastor/ Kagawad Bayani Areola leads the evangelical groups in the disaster response.
- Pastor Areola has not yet submitted updated figures of their relief assistance.
- He earlier said that a number of churches (buildings), houses of pastors and church members were also destroyed or damaged.
- Pastor Areola plans to have bible distribution among the surviving families.
- The IMA has no organized information system yet, although I suggested to Pastor Areola to also strengthen their operations center by delineating functions to different pastors/workers and to set up a monitoring system, for easy data access and assessment of services provided and needed.
- At this point, the assistance provided by the churches are limited to food, but like Cagayan de Oro, there is a big need for other assistance in the city like water supply, cooking pots and pans, temporary relocation sites and temporary shelters. There are still many families lining up the highway in makeshift structures covered with blankets and sacks and occasional tarps.
- A big river island near Tibanga in the eastern part of the city was one of the most severely hit, with almost all houses swept away and bridges to the place destroyed.
- Most likely the island would be declared as not fit for settlements.
- There are no definite plans yet for permanent relocation.



III. Recommendations:

- a. PCEC-PHILRADS to continue serving the flood victims with emergency supplies:
- food, mats and blankets, cooking utensils
  - cleaning supplies (like push brush, pails and tabo, detergent and bleach, and equip church volunteers with tools like shovels, rakes, rubber boots)



- temporary shelter like tarpaulin sheets
- provision for clean water supply like purifiers.
- b. Request PBS to ship Bibles and bible portions directly to CDO and Iligan.
- c. Provide medicines to medical missions organized by COEMA and IMA.
- d. Coordinate with COEMA and IMA to provide trauma counseling (stress debriefing) program, involving Christian psychiatrists and psychologists. These professionals can train pastors to counsel the disaster victims.
- e. Continue to coordinate with the government regarding permanent relocation and participate in the program.



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