



EXECUTIVE BRIEF
Typhoon Haiyan
Philippines
30 April 2014



HIGHLIGHTS

- **FAO has assisted nearly 44 000 affected families to plant rice in time** for the December/January planting season, filling the gap in rice seed requirements identified by the Government for Regions VI and VIII. By June, this will yield enough rice to feed some 800 000 people for a year, at an estimated market value of USD 84 million.
- **FAO is providing 13 000 tools, over 4 500 tonnes of fertilizer and other vital agricultural equipment** to around **80 000 affected families**, complementing seed distributions in Regions IVB, V, VI, VII and VIII.
- **Strategic Response Plan:** five critical areas of FAO intervention and coordination (USD 38 million):
 1. Rice and corn farmers
 2. Fisheries and coastal communities
 3. Coconut farmers
 4. Upland agroforestry
 5. Backyard livestock production
 - + Cluster coordination
- **FAO has received USD 34.7 million in funding**, which will enable a wide range of support to affected families, including small-scale rice, corn, coconut and upland farmers, fishers and smallholder livestock and poultry producers.
- **Contributors include:** CERF, ECHO, FAO and the Governments of Belgium, Canada, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

BACKGROUND

Typhoon Haiyan (locally called Yolanda) swept the central Philippines on 8 November. The category 5 storm affected 14.1 million people, displaced 4.1 million, killed 6 201 and caused severe damage to the agriculture sector.

FAO is working closely with the Philippines Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), and the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and other relevant Government agencies at all levels, addressing priorities of the Government's Damage and Loss Assessment and Reconstruction Assistance on Yolanda Plan.

AGRICULTURAL DAMAGES

Source: Department of Agriculture
(Reconstruction Assistance on Yolanda, 16/12/13)

- **Agricultural recovery and rehabilitation needs: USD 724 m**
- **600 000 ha of farmland devastated**
- **1.1 million tonnes of crops lost, 80% in Region VIII**
- **Principal crops in affected areas**
 - **Coconut (73% of crop area)**
 - **Rice (16% of crop area)**
 - **Corn (4% of crop area)**

CHALLENGES FACING AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

❖ **Rice and corn farming**

There has been a concerted and successful Government-led effort to secure the December/January rice planting season. FAO provided nearly 44 000 families with rice seed; complementarily, around 80 000 farmers were supported with fertilizers and farming tools. Without timely support, these farming families would have been unable to plant and dependent on external food aid for one full cropping cycle. **For the May/June planting season, FAO is supporting an additional 6 800 rice and corn farmers with agricultural inputs.**

❖ **Coconut – most affected crop – registers USD 396 million in losses**

Around 1 million coconut farmers were affected by the typhoon. An estimated 33 million trees were damaged or destroyed. As coconut seedlings take on average six-eight years to become productive again, affected families need support to both replant trees and secure alternative livelihoods in the interim. **FAO plans to help nearly 30 000 small-scale coconut farmers build alternative livelihoods through intercropping, crop diversification and livestock/poultry-raising activities.**

❖ **Fisheries sector devastated, across entire value chain**

The typhoon destroyed everything from fishing boats and gear, to aquaculture, small-scale seaweed farms, onshore facilities and markets. An estimated 30 000 boats were affected, including 10 000 lost or destroyed. FAO must play a key role to ensure (i) pre-typhoon fishing capacity is not exceeded; (ii) boat safety and quality; and (iii) distribution of selective, non-destructive and legal fishing gear. **FAO is providing technical guidance, trainings on building, maintaining and repairing fiberglass and wooden boats, and input support to 17 000 small-scale fishers.**

❖ **Smallholder livestock and poultry producers – mostly women – face heavy livelihood losses**

The most affected regions – VI, VII and VIII – host around 20-30 percent of key livestock (e.g. carabao, goats, poultry, cattle). Livestock are an integral part of livelihoods and an important source of extra income, savings and food that enhance dietary diversity and reduce micronutrient deficiencies. **FAO is working with women farmers' groups and will support small-scale farmers, in particular coconut and upland farmers, with layer hens, small ruminants and draft animals.**

❖ **Agroforestry devastated**

An overall average of 49 percent of tree plantations – including banana and fruit trees – were damaged or destroyed. This has severely affected small-scale upland farmers relying heavily on agroforestry systems for food and nutrition security. Mangroves have also been damaged greatly. **FAO is collaborating with the FMB to rehabilitate agroforestry and mangroves. FAO will be supporting nearly 5 000 small-scale vulnerable upland farmers with agricultural inputs, including fruit tree seedlings.**

FAO RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS: 1st harvest of 2014

The race for rice. The typhoon struck between two planting seasons – destroying ready to harvest, harvested and newly planted rice. Farmers needed to clear and replant their fields by December/January to secure the first harvest of 2014. FAO made this a top priority and reached about 44 000 families with rice production packages. Complementing rice seed distributions, FAO provided additional agricultural inputs to about 80 000 families (fertilizers and farm tools).

Filling the gap. FAO has been closely supporting government-led efforts. The main focus of FAO's targeting has been to fill the gaps identified by DA, DAR and DENR assisting the most vulnerable. FAO is also working in cooperation with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, the Philippines Coconut Authority and Bureau of Animal Industry to complement support to fishing families and small-scale coconut farmers.

Expected results. The harvesting season has started and every farmer FAO supported with 1 hectare-worth of rice seed (40 kg) is expected to produce enough rice to feed a family of five for a year, generate vital income and save as seed for future planting. The total anticipated production is enough to feed 800 000 people for 1 year. This assistance is saving livelihoods and money: a USD 5 million farming intervention producing an estimated USD 84 million in food.



44 000 FAMILIES
able to plant in time



ENOUGH RICE TO FEED
800 000 people for 1 year

TYPHOON HAIYAN STRATEGIC RESPONSE PLAN

FAO PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS

| USD 38 MILLION

- 1. Rice and corn farmers (USD 18.84 million).** Restore income generation | Obtain and protect the 2014 harvests.
 - 2. Fisheries (USD 5 million).** Rehabilitate production assets and post-harvest facilities | Provide fisheries inputs, technical support and training, focused on resilience.
 - 3. Coconut farmers (USD 6.7 million).** Restore income generation before coconuts can be harvested through: intercropping | crop-diversification | livestock/poultry raising | training (processing, storage & conservation techniques) focused on women.
 - 4. Backyard livestock production (USD 4 million).** Restock backyard small ruminants and poultry | Safeguard health of livestock critical to small-scale agriculture (draught power).
 - 5. Rehabilitation of agroforests (USD 2 million).** Rehabilitate agroforestry systems and provide options to communities to combine mangrove development and livelihood diversification.
- + **Food Security and Agriculture Cluster Coordination (USD 1.4 million).**

TARGETED BENEFICIARIES
128 600 FAMILIES



REGIONS TARGETED:
IVB, V, VI, VII and VIII

FOCUS AREAS: CROPS, COCONUT, FISHERIES, LIVESTOCK, AGROFORESTRY

FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE CLUSTER
CO-LED BY FAO/WFP



CURRENT PRIORITIES

Coconut farmers (intercropping & livelihood diversification)
Rice & corn farmers (rainfed areas) to resume production by May/June 2014

Small-scale fishers, coordination & technical guidance
Backyard livestock production

Upland farmers & agroforestry

FAO TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- Dedicated technical specialists (all agriculture subsectors), supporting Government, Cluster and affected people and co-leading the Fisheries and Coconut Technical Working Groups.
- Participated in the design and analysis of the humanitarian Multi-Sector/Cluster Initial Rapid Assessment and Needs Assessments (MIRA1 and MNA/MIRA2) and Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA).

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