

AUG 2020

FbF NEWSMAGAZINE

PHILIPPINE RED CROSS

Forecast-based Financing Project
2017-2022



Main Achievements

- DEVELOPMENT OF TWO EAPs
- FIRST EAP ACTIVATION OF 2019
- INCLUSION OF 22 PROVINCES

Photo by: German Red Cross European-Union Volunteer in Brgy. Tobrehon, San Miguel, Catanduanes

Introduction



Photo by: German Red Cross European Union Volunteer in Brgy. Dinadiawan, Dipaculao, Aurora

PHASE I OF THE FbF PROJECT OF THE PRC COMES TO AN END, 2ND PHASE SET TO BEGIN IN AUGUST

The First Phase of the “Forecast-based Financing in the Philippines – Closing the Gap between Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Relief” – Project has come to an end and as we progress towards the second phase of the FbF-project, it is time to do some reflections and look at what have we learned and accomplished during the past nearly three years.

In a nutshell, the Philippine Red Cross in collaboration with the German Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Red Cross Climate Centre and the International Federation

of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has developed **two Early Action Protocols (EAP)** for two different hazards; **typhoon and flood**. The goal of these EAPs is to reduce the negative impact of hazards on livelihoods and damage on shelters of vulnerable people.

Typhoon and flood early actions were chosen and developed as a result of thorough analysis and collaboration with governmental partners and PRC Chapters. **Core Groups** were ultimately established in **22 provinces** to support coordination with other stakeholders and to help guarantee smooth implementation during activation. Finally, four early actions were identified, and proposed in the EAPs: **strengthening of shelters** (for typhoon), **evacuation of livestock and early harvesting of matured crops** (for either typhoon or flood), and **temporary relocation of stocks for small businesses** (for flood in urban context).

In addition, the process of developing early actions for drought hazard started in 2019.

Five simulation exercises were organized to enhance the implementation processes of early actions and compile learnings. Moreover, three National Dialogue Platforms and one Regional Dialogue Platform (for Asia Pacific) were held in the Philippines during the duration of the 1st Phase of the project to bring together early warning early action practitioners from different sectors in the Philippines and around the world.

In 2019 the project expanded from ten provinces to a **total of twenty-two provinces** covering four different regions across the country; North Luzon, Bicol, East Visayas and Mindanao. As we look forward to reaching out more regions, provinces and communities, it is important to look at the past highlights of Phase I.

Messages



DAMIEN RIQUET
GERMAN RED CROSS
FbF Project Manager

The last 3 years passed so fast. The Forecast-based Financing project has grown very rapidly in the Philippines, and I'm happy to say, will continue to expand with the phase II of the project which is soon to start. The concept of anticipatory humanitarian actions is full of potential and there is still a lot to learn, with a growing community of practice. Looking forward to bringing FbF to the next level, with effective coordination mechanisms in place for large scale activations, and collective evaluations, in order to produce a large set of concrete evidences!



JOSEPH RANDY LOY
PROVINCIAL DISASTER
RISK REDUCTION AND
MANAGEMENT OFFICER
Davao de Oro

How can Forecast-based Financing project strengthen your partnership/coordination with LGUs/partners/stakeholders? The FbF project strengthen the partnership for all involved stakeholders as manifested by the various engagements each organization has extended to each other even during this COVID-19 crisis.



ANA MARIE DIZON
START NETWORK
Forewarn Coordinator

How do you envision Forecast-based Financing years from now?

Years from now affected countries, donors and relevant implementing agencies will more actively work together to leverage their resources and expertise to support the scaling up of forecast-based/impact-base financing/anticipatory action initiatives, that connect the development of early warning to a variety of early action plans and strategies based on risks to save more people. Currently, policies, early warning systems, appropriate funding and delivery mechanism are still not yet systematically in place and aligned to enable at-risk population and agencies assisting them to be able to take early action.

Game-changer!

— **MA.PATROCINA LEA C. MATEO**
DISASTER MANAGEMENT SERVICES,
PHILIPPINE RED CROSS
OIC – Unit Head, DPRR Unit

Messages



**CATHERINE KARA
ROSS MYLENE
Y. BUIS**

PRC DAVAO ORIENTAL
CHAPTER
Former Chapter
Administrator

What has been the impact of the FbF – Project Implementation in the Chapter? The FbF project has helped a lot in improving the Disaster Management Program of the Chapter. It made us realize that there are more efficient and effective ways in reducing the risk brought about by disasters through this project. It gave the chapter an opportunity to have more partnership and engagements with the LGUs than our regular services. It gave us the chance to share the knowledge to communities that there are lots of ways for preparedness and response to disasters, and one of which is the FbF. An early action that mitigates its impacts to lives, livelihoods, and economy.



ANDRO P. FACUNDO

LOCAL DRRM OFFICER II
PROVINCIAL DISASTER
RISK REDUCTION AND
MANAGEMENT OFFICE
Catanduanes

Any message to the FbF team? The FbF Team's sincere efforts and dedication is contagious. They successfully showcased the significance of the FbF Concept through the well-executed FbF Project. Hats off and congratulations! You reminded the local authorities of the fact that a lot of DRRM things remains undone in order to achieve the ultimate goal of making a certified resilient island province.



ANTONIO ESPANA

PROVINCIAL DISASTER
RISK REDUCTION AND
MANAGEMENT OFFICER
Camarines Norte

What has been the impact of FbF implementation in the LGU? The FbF innovates the LGUs in practicing its capacity to adapt the fundamental principle of whole of society approach in dealing with disaster risk reduction and management. This brings the high risk and most vulnerable as the center and pillar of emergency preparation with logistical support from the LGU and to maximize the local institutional resources. This also initiates discussion on government financial process in consequence of emergency situation including project procurement management planning.



**ENGR. JOSEPHINE
G. ALBAÑO**

BICOL RIVER BASIN
FLOOD FORECASTING
AND WARNING CENTER
Chief

What can you say about Forecast-based Financing (as a concept and the project itself)? The Forecast-based Financing which aims to provide financial support to potential vulnerable communities is a great mechanism to boost our capacity in preparation more than resilience. This project likewise complements the National government's direction to sustain the well-being and security of the people who are living in vulnerable areas.



**JONAS PLASABAS
MACO**

PRC SOUTHERN LEYTE
CHAPTER
Chapter Administrator

Describe Forecast-based Financing in 3 words.

F - ORWARD LOOKING Project

A - DAPTATION (can be adapted)

R - esponsive to the needs of the people

As far as I know, this will last, go beyond and can be/will be integrated in the DRRM.



FORECAST-BASED FINANCING PHASE I HIGHLIGHTS

2017



NATIONAL PROJECT LAUNCHING (October 24)

The national project launching was conducted in PRC National Headquarters, with the participation of National Headquarters staff and managers, representatives from different Partner National Societies and Red Cross Climate Center, and also representatives from different partners and stakeholders such as German Embassy, PAGASA, World Food Programme, Development Academy of the Philippines, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Trade and Industry, and Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Photo by: PRC Communication in 2nd floor, PRC Multipurpose Hall

SENSITIZATION/CONSULTATION WORKSHOP (November to December)

Based on a comprehensive analysis of historical events, and the use of the 510 dashboard, the project team identified possible areas of interest for the FbF project – those red in the map (in blue are the provinces covered by the FbF intervention of the World Food Programme). Several consultation and sensitization workshops were organized in HQ, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao regions, with a total of 25 PRC Chapters, and 14 services/departments, including PNS.

These workshops allowed the introduction of the concept of FbF and provided a general description of the PRC FbF Project to key PRC staff including Senior Management, Service Managers, Unit Heads, and senior operational staff. In addition, representatives from RCRC Movement Partners in the Philippines were also invited to participate in the workshops.

By implementing this activity, the project aimed at building support towards the intervention throughout the organization, and to assess the feasibility and the possible institutionalization of FbF in the Philippines.

Through these exercises, it was discovered that FbF is not a new concept in the Philippines as some actions are already being done, based on forecasts, albeit done unsystematically and with insufficient funding. Also, it was highlighted that neighboring chapters would be helping each other in times of crises, meaning that early actions protocols should be developed not only for one target chapter, but for the neighboring provinces as well to encourage them to lend a hand and give support to the most affected area.

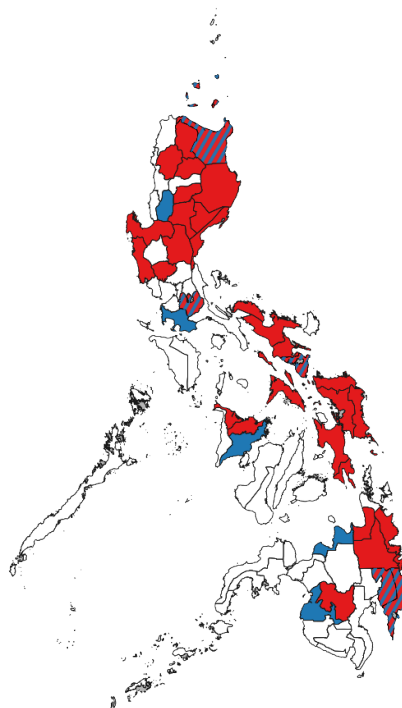


3RD NATIONAL DIALOGUE PLATFORM ON FORECAST-BASED FINANCING (November 23)

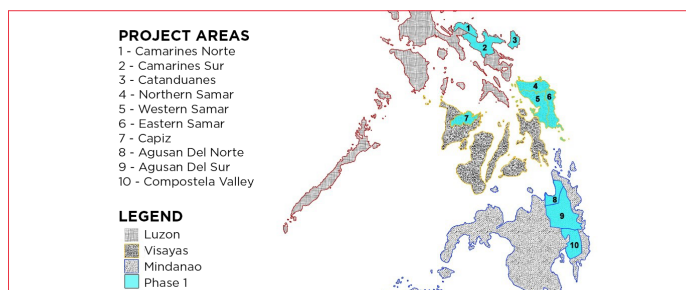
The event organized by the Philippine Red Cross together with the World Food Programme (WFP) took place during the Climate Change Consciousness Week in 2017, at Sofitel Philippine Plaza to discuss the **Forecast-based Financing initiatives in the Philippines**.

The well-attended event brought together key officials from the government as well as concerned international and local agencies to talk about FbF as key in building the gap between disaster risk reduction and emergency relief. It was also discussed how it could be best put into practice in an archipelagic country such as the Philippines, through advance identification and risk assessment of the places where extreme events are most likely to occur, with emphasis on impact-based forecasting.

Photo by: PRC Communication in Sofitel Philippine Plaza, Manila



2018



PILOTING 10 HIGH-RISK PROVINCES/CHAPTERS

The FbF project for 2018 focused on 10 prioritized high-risk provinces: Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, North Samar, East Samar, West Samar, Capiz, Agusan Norte, Agusan Sur and Davao de Oro (Compostela Valley). Key activities such as field visits, workshops, data gathering, community consultations, write shops, and simulations, contributed to the drafting of the first Early Action Protocols (EAP), **one for Typhoon** and **one for Flooding**.

The Early Action Protocol (EAP) is a concrete and vital output of the implementation of FbF. It contains step by step guidelines for implementation of forecast based early actions. It contains 3 key elements which are triggers, early actions, and finance. It explains the guidelines for what early actions will be taken, who takes the action, how, when, where, and with what funds. It contain as well the triggers that would define the timing of such actions, turning those planned actions into reality.



EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL SIMULATIONS (October 16 to 18, and 23 to 25)

In order to test the draft typhoon and flood EAP, two simulation exercises were conducted in 2018. The simulations aimed to practice, strengthen, and review specific Early Action based on a typhoon and flood scenarios. Simulation activities started with day -4 when the chapter received the alert until before the impact occurred, and early actions were implemented.

For flood early actions, the simulation was conducted in Capiz, which focused on the distribution of multipurpose cash grant to 200 families. Mode of transfer was through PHLOST.

For typhoon early actions, it was conducted in West Samar, and focused on the distribution of shelter strengthening kits to 40 households, and recruitment of 8 teams of 5 workers for cash for work.

The simulation exercise taught us the need to further develop the SSK design and that some of the SSK items need to be prepositioned in regional warehouses, so that the supplies can be accessed quickly if trigger is reached.

Photo by: Finnish Red Cross Communication in Brgy. Fereras, Marabut, West Samar



2ND ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL DIALOGUE PLATFORM ON FbF (May 29 to June 01)

Held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, this was the 2nd Asia Pacific Regional Dialogue Platform on FbF. It started with a 1 day internal Red Cross meeting. Then, it was followed by a 2-day event which gathered about 120 national, regional, and international practitioners, scientists, policy makers, and government representatives from 21 countries to share their experiences and learn about an innovative humanitarian financing method to allow Early Action based on weather forecasts and in-depth risk analysis.

The purpose of the platform was to discuss implementation strategies and provide space for the FbF practitioners and partners to move ahead together with the FbF agenda in Asia Pacific across organizations, and enhance understanding of the concept, methodology and funding mechanisms.

Photo by: PRC DMS in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



4TH NATIONAL DIALOGUE PLATFORM ON FORECASTBASED FINANCING (December 05 to 06)

The Philippine Red Cross, together with the WFP, and FAO, conducted the 4th FbF National Dialogue Platform, in New World Manila Bay Hotel. It was well-attended by around 104 participants, from national, regional, and provincial line agencies, and scientific/research institutions, selected partner from LGUs, and other organizations implementing FbF, or similar concept on early warning early actions.

The forum aimed to bring together stakeholders to enhance understanding and agree on (i) the description of the triggering procedures for Forecast-based early actions; (ii) develop ways forward on Financing mechanism including tools for the Forecast-base Early Actions; and (iii) discuss on integration of Forecast-based Actions into LGUs' planning process.

Photo by: PRC DMS in New World, Manila Bay, Hotel

2019

EXPANSION TO ADDITIONAL 12 HIGH RISK PROVINCES/CHAPTERS

In 2019, the FbF project was rolled out in additional 12 high risks provinces in order to achieve the goal of national scope EAP, which would allow the PRC to be prepared for activation, in every part of the country, in case an extreme weather event happens. By adding these areas, PRC is able to act anywhere an impending disaster would hit in the country.

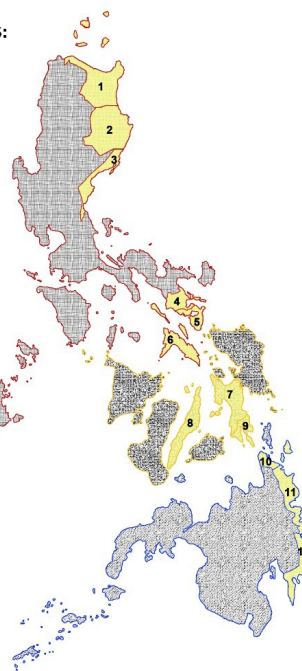
These additional high risks provinces – Cagayan, Isabela, Aurora, Albay, Masbate, Sorsogon, Leyte, Southern Leyte, Cebu, Davao Oriental, Surigao del Sur, and Surigao del Norte – contributed also in the further development of Early Action Protocol (EAP) for Typhoon and Flood.

PROJECT AREAS:

- 1 - Cagayan
- 2 - Isabela
- 3 - Aurora
- 4 - Albay
- 5 - Sorsogon
- 6 - Masbate
- 7 - Leyte
- 8 - Cebu
- 9 - Southern Leyte
- 10 - Surigao Del Norte
- 11 - Surigao Del Sur
- 12 - Davao Oriental

LEGEND:

- Luzon
- Visayas
- Mindanao
- Phase 2



SMALL-SCALE TEST ACTIVATION FOR DROUGHT May

During last quarter of 2018, PAGASA forecasted a 90% probability of weak El Nino occurrence for early 2019, in 50 provinces nationwide. In February 2019, it was upgraded to **ENSO Alert System to El Nino Advisory**. Looking at the specificity of the climate in the Bicol region where the deficit of rain would be significant during an El Nino episode, especially during the first harvesting season, and considering that the region had also been affected by Tropical Depression Usman on the 29th of December 2018 – resulting in some of the crops being washed away thus delaying the planting – it was decided at the end of March 2019 that Early Actions for Drought would be tested in the province of Camarines Sur.

The Drought Early Action test plan was presented to provincial partners mid-April and tested during the first week of May in 5 barangays, finally covering a total of **210 beneficiaries**, for a budget of 23,300 €. Beneficiaries received multipurpose cash grant amounting to Php6,000.00.

Photo by: PRC DMS in Brgy. San Roque, Ocampo, Camarines Sur



3RD ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL DIALOGUE PLATFORM ON FbF

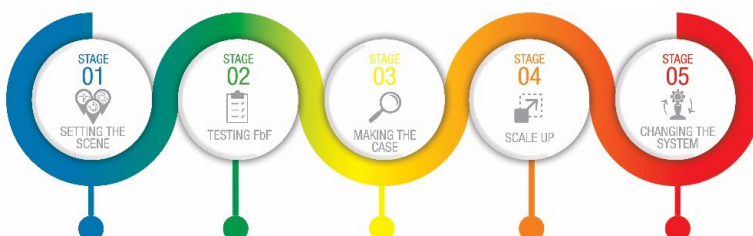
June 25 to 28

Philippine Red Cross hosted the 3rd Asia Pacific Regional Dialogue Platform on FbF, held in Diamond Hotel, Manila. Unlike the previous platform, it immediately started with a 3-day big program that gathered around 120 national, regional, and international practitioners, scientists, policy makers, and government representatives from 12 countries to share their knowledge and experiences. It was then followed by a 1-day internal Red Cross meeting.

The purpose of the platform were (a) to gather managers, experts and practitioners to exchange knowledge, experience and ideas in science, policy and practice that are essential to the advancement of the early warning early action agenda through FbF; and (b) to build on the current positive developments and encourage discussions on the financing mechanisms, the triggers and the actions, as well as on the inter-agency coordination and on generating the evidences needed in order to make the case and bring FbF to scale.

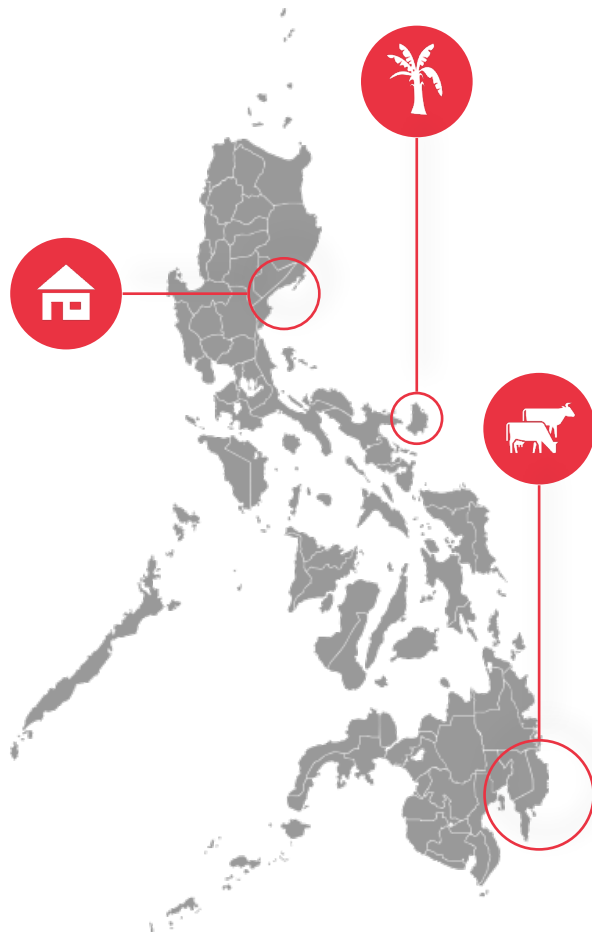
Photo by: German Red Cross European Union Volunteer in Diamond Hotel, Manila

INNOVATION TIMELINE



TYPHOON EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL SIMULATIONS

The simulations aimed to practice, strengthen, and review the appropriateness of the EAP based on a given typhoon scenario. Specifically, this activity looked into the implementation of early action from the day the chapter receives the trigger until before the impact occurs. It also allowed, partners and stakeholders to understand what they need to do and open discussion on how PRC and LGUs activities can complement each other.



EXCHANGE LEARNING VISIT IN ALBAY RE:LIVESTOCK EVACUATION

October 22 to 23

This exchange visit in Albay was undertaken due to the province's experience in evacuating livestock during Mayon operation early 2019. This enabled regional and provincial offices to discuss, share knowledge, experience, and initiate formulation of a Guidelines containing essential information on livestock evacuation.

This visit was participated by PRC chapters and core group from Davao Oriental, Masbate, Camarines Sur and Albay.

Main output of this visit was an outline of guidelines for livestock evacuation. The Guidelines explains in detail the process of evacuating animals, such as formulation of a livestock evacuation team, identification of a pooling area, transportation, registration and the release of animals.



Early Harvesting of Abaca through Cash for Work in Catanduanes

DATE	July 28 – 30, 2019
PROVINCE	CATANDUANES
MUNICIPALITIES	VIGA and SAN MIGUEL
BARANGAYS	VILLA AURORA and TOBREHON
BENEFICIARIES	30 workers (farmers / fishermen) per 1 barangay (a total of 60 workers for 2 barangays)
EARLY ACTION	Early harvesting of abaca trees *in 1 hour, there were an average of 250 trees cut by 30 workers
CASH ASSISTANCE	After completion of works, each worker received Php500.00/day



Distribution of Shelter Strengthening Kit and Cash for Work in Aurora

DATE	August 27– 29, 2019
PROVINCE	AURORA
MUNICIPALITY	DIPACULAO
BARANGAYS	BORLONGAN, DIANED, DINADIAWAN, and CALAOOCAN
BENEFICIARIES	8 beneficiary households (for SSK) and 5 beneficiary workers (for cash for work) per 1 barangay (a total of 32 beneficiary households and 20 beneficiary workers for 2 barangays)
EARLY ACTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribution of shelter strengthening kit (SSK) Strengthening of weak shelters * 1 shelter can be strengthened in an average of 1 hour with 1 team of workers (5 members: 2 skilled + 3 unskilled workers)
CASH ASSISTANCE	After completion of works, each worker received Php500.00/day • Php500.00 = skilled workers • Php350.00 = unskilled workers



Community Evacuation with Livestock in Davao Oriental

DATE	September 4-6, 2019
PROVINCE	DAVAO ORIENTAL
MUNICIPALITY	SAN ISIDRO
BARANGAYS	CABALEON and LA UNION
BENEFICIARIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 88 families and at least 350 individuals evacuated At least 31 carabaos, 9 cows, 5 pigs, 16 goats, and some chicken
EARLY ACTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support in evacuation of livestock: setting up fence (with 10 workers in 1 barangay)
CASH ASSISTANCE	After completion of works, each worker received Php500.00/day

5TH NATIONAL DIALOGUE PLATFORM ON FORECAST-BASED FINANCING

November 6 to 7

The Philippine Red Cross, together with the World Food Programme, Food Agriculture Organization, and START Network conducted the 5th FbF National Dialogue Platform, in Taal Vista Hotel, Tagaytay City, Cavite. It was well-attended by around 80 participants, from national, regional, and provincial line agencies, academia and scientific/research institutions, selected partners from LGUs, and other organizations implementing FbF, or similar concept on early warning early actions.

The forum aimed to build upon the previous platforms and encourage discussion on the triggering system, coordination of anticipatory actions, possible financing mechanism, and collection of evidences, in order to bring FbF to scale.

APPROVAL OF TYPHOON EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL

It was November 2019, when the Typhoon EAP was approved. This was a great progress that enabled PRC to access the Forecast-based Action by the DREF (Disaster Relief Emergency Fund). Currently, it covers 19 high risks areas/provinces, located in the eastern seaboard of the country, from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

The EAP shall be activated if the predicted impact of an impending Tropical Cyclone, 72h before landfall, is of more than 10% of houses to be totally destroyed in at least 3 municipalities. The impact forecast is provided by the statistical model of the 510 initiative – here is the sample from Tisoy. One activation is targeting around 2,000 beneficiaries.

SMALL-SCALE ACTIVATION FOR TYPHOON TISOY

In anticipation of Typhoon Tisoy (Kammuri), the Philippine Red Cross, supported by the German Red Cross, has implemented early actions to support high risks areas in Bicol region as part of the Forecast-based Financing approach. The FbF team was closely monitoring the cyclone forecasts and used impact-based forecast to anticipate where the most severe impact of the wind would be.

The Red Cross volunteers and staff were able to implement early actions up to **3 days before landfall** (starting activities on November 30, 2019):

• IN CATANDUANES,

early harvesting of Abaca trees was supported in five communities, employing 99 community members. This ensured that vulnerable farm workers had income for the coming months when processing the fibers. Past storms, which destroyed abaca trees, caused significant losses for farmers, and continuous lack of income for those workers who normally process the trees.

• IN CAMARINES NORTE,

the evacuation of livestock was proposed in

two communities. These were communities that had already lost large parts of their livestock during Typhoon Usman one year ago. The FbF team identified a central elevated site and employed 17 community members to create livestock fences for goats and pigs. The evacuation was carried out in close collaboration with the provincial DRRM authorities, which provided trucks.

• IN CAMARINES NORTE,

houses were strengthened in two communities by tying down roofs etc. Shelter strengthening kits and instruction materials had been developed earlier this year specifically for this purpose by an expert organization Build Change.

The post-impact assessment and evaluation revealed that the beneficiaries of the small-scale activation during Typhoon Tisoy had considerably less damage on their shelters compared to non-beneficiaries, and that the vast majority of beneficiaries for cash for work used the money immediately to purchase food/other basic necessities for their households.

Predicted Damage per Municipality for KAMMURI ("Tisoy")

Source of wind speed forecast Tropical Storm Risk (UCL)

Only municipalities within 100km of forecasted typhoon track are included

Prediction is about completely damaged houses only

Estimated time to Landfall: 2019-12-02 22:00:00 PST (84 hrs)

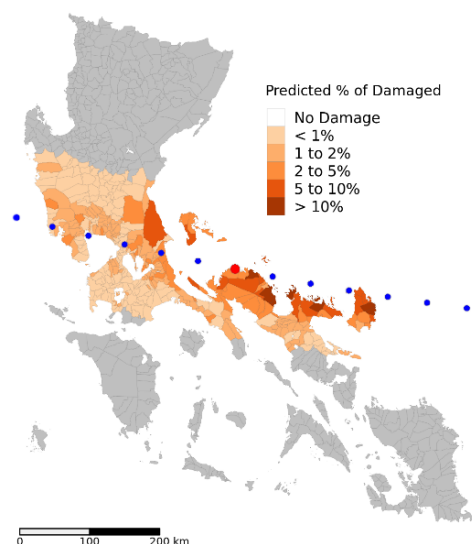


Photo by: PRC Catanduanes Chapter in Brgy. Camburo, Caramoran, Catanduanes

2020



Photo by: PRC DMS in Almont Hotel, Surigao City, Surigao del Norte

PREPARATORY TRAININGS FOR PRC CHAPTERS ON THE EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL IMPLEMENTATION

February to July

In order for the chapters to be prepared for the activation, a combination of face to face and virtual trainings were conducted on the typhoon EAP.

The goal was to train the chapters in implementing the Typhoon Early Action Protocol from the preparatory phase, activation phase, and immediately after the impact. Moreover, the trainings were part of the long-term objectives of the project to institutionalize FbF within the PRC. At the end of the project, the EAP will be handed

over to the PRC management and it will be their role to keep it alive and updated. Conducting this training will ensure chapters will be ready anytime and can act independently or with minimal supervision from the headquarters.

There were 6 chapters trained face to face and 12 chapters through virtual/online. And the training will continue in the beginning of the FbF Phase II Project, for those chapters that have not been trained yet.

FbF PHASE I PROJECT PRESENTATION AND CONSULTATION WORKSHOP FOR PHASE II

June 11

This event allowed the team to present the overall accomplishment of the project and open an opportunity to give recommendations for phase II. This was done online and 19 participants attended coming from various offices/departments of PRC.

Generated initial ideas from this workshop are not yet final, and will be detailed further after the phase I final evaluation (delayed due to the COVID 19 impact). Another round of consultation will be conducted once this evaluation is completed, to go further in the concrete implementation of Phase II.

Main orientations for phase II are:

- Study on the feasibility of FbF implementation in conflict areas;
- 12 additional chapters to be involved;
- 2 additional EAPs to be developed;
- Trainings on the EAPs to be rolled out with all chapters;
- Implementation of 3 simulation exercises every year;
- Presentation of FbF achievements to the NDRRMC;
- Integration of the EAP triggers in the Operation Center dashboard.

Success Stories

With the successful implementation of Forecast-based Financing in the Philippines - Phase I, from August 2017 until July 2020, there are some beneficiary stories that needs to be shared. Stories that desire in every established organization to attain success in its endeavors.

"Thumbs up for a Good Work!"

In Capiz, Philippine Red Cross conducted a simulation exercise for flood, and one of the beneficiaries of the the multipurpose cash grant was Mr. Rafael Dividina, 62 years old, a farmer, with 5 children and a wife. *"We usually do harvest if the crop is matured enough to harvest but if it is not, we will just wait for the flood to subside and we will just check if we can still use the flooded crop, or it is wasted already."*

He was selected as one of the beneficiaries in their barangay that is usually highly affected by flooding. He attended the beneficiary orientation and said that this project is really good because it can help farmers before calamity happens. The Red Cross personnel assisted him during the cash distribution until he received the money. The assistance from many agencies usually come after the disaster, but for this program it provided assistance before the event of flood, and they can decide where they will use it (either for seeds and fertilizer or for basic necessities). It also prevented them from borrowing items in the store, and borrowing money from someone. *"The project is good, those who assisted us during the simulation were kind. You continue what you are doing, continue helping."*

"Sagip-Hayop Program and Livestock Evacuation Drill."

November 2019, in Municipality of San Isidro, Davao Oriental, Animal/Livestock Evacuation was held which aims to support the livestock owners to properly evacuate their animal. Dr. Eric Dagmang, an active member of Core Group and Department Head of the Provincial Veterinary Office of the Province of Davao Oriental, believes that the drill became an avenue for them to improve their Sagip Hayop Program. After the said drill, they conducted another drill at the Municipality of Boston. They have included during the orientation the risk mapping of the community and identification of safe livestock evacuation areas. He said that the importance of conducting these drills for the province are to encourage the community people to evacuate. The safety of their livestock is one of the major reasons why there is a resistance for the community during pre-emptive evacuation. Because of these drills, the communities are given knowledge and idea on how to evacuate their livestock thus, open their mind and change their attitude in evacuation process. *"There will be a lesser loss number of livestock during disasters which results to faster recovery of families who are affected of the disaster. They can go back to their livelihood easier if they don't suffer the loss of the livestock."*



Photo by: PRC Capiz Chapter in Brgy. Tugas, Mambusao, Capiz

Suc

“Adaptation of Shelter Strengthening.”

At first, Mr. Charlemagne C. Bagasol, the LDRMO IV of the City of Mati was reluctant on the idea of Shelter Strengthening Kit (SSK) because it was the first time that he heard about the said early action, but the simulation exercise of SSK in Aurora province made him realized that it is very important. Because he believes in this, the LGU of Mati City have already allocated Php 500,000.00 for the acquisitions of materials for the SSK, and probably more in the coming years. They plan to modify the contents of the kits to be more suitable to the households in their area. They have already included in the CDRMO’s Calendar of Activity for this year 2020, the training for shelter strengthening in the month of August, to capacitate the community on how to do it in their community as part of its goal of *“building and promoting community resiliency.”*

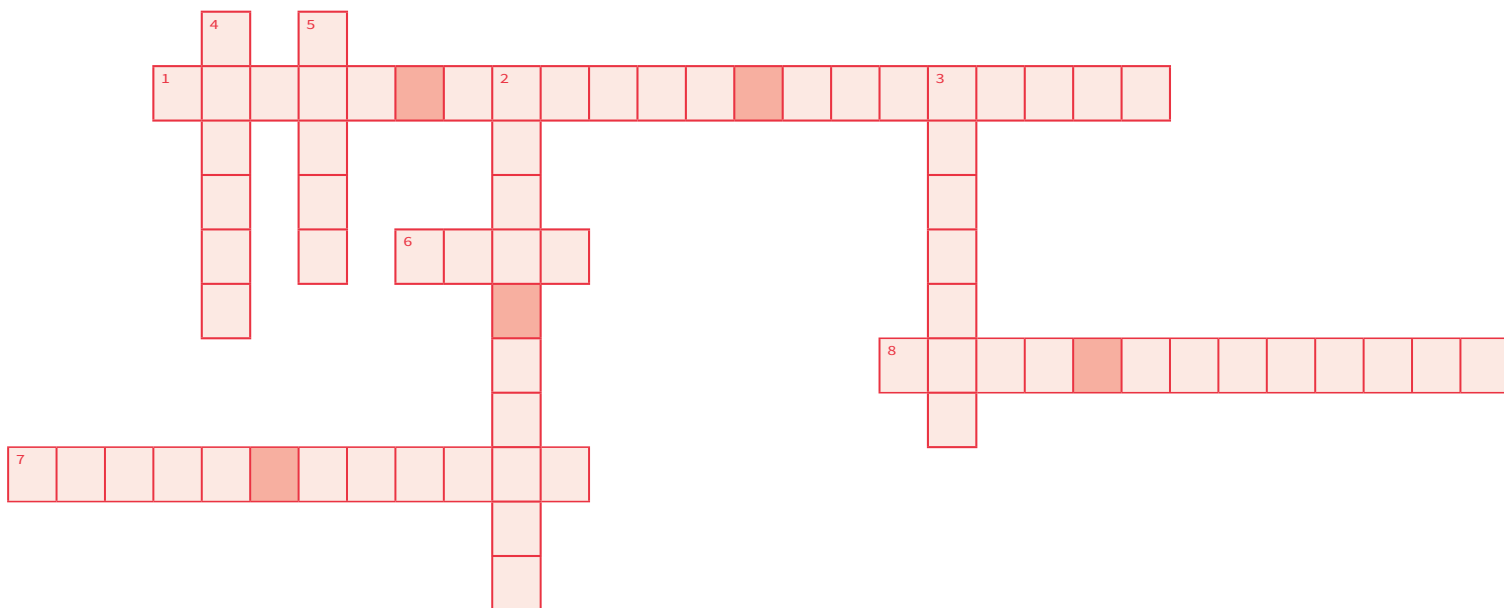
“Proud Abacaleros.”

This focuses on the abaca farmers in Catanduanes. Approximately 60% of Catanduanes’ population relies on Abaca Fiber production as their main source of income. There are about 32,012.48 hectare of abaca plantations being cultivated by 14,168 farmers (as of 2017). Last December 2019, the project did a Small-Scale Activation for Typhoon Tisoy in the province of Catanduanes. Mrs. Imelda S. Balbuena, is an abaca farmer and one of the beneficiaries in Barangay Sabangan, Municipality of Caramoran. She is 49 years of age, with husband and 2 children; 4 years old and 2 years old. She is a high school graduate and even she’s a woman, she can do the whole process of abaca harvesting. Her family source of income is only relying in abaca. She is a labourer and their house is made out by light materials. Before the Red Cross entered in their barangay to give assistance, she only knows about the Philippine Red Cross for blood donations and distribution of biscuits to vulnerable families. But she was surprised that it also gave support for abaca farmers. She received cash after harvesting matured abaca in selected farm in their community. She is thankful and blessed for this project. The cash she received was used to purchase their basic needs before the typhoon hit the province.



Photo by: German Red Cross European Union Volunteer in Brgy. Tobrehon, San Miguel, Catanduanes

Early Action Protocol Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. A manual, and a tool at the same time, that guides PRC in implementing timely and effective anticipatory actions, when certain impact-based forecast shows a high likelihood of a severe impact in the country.
6. A group that carries out livestock evacuation; consists of 16 people who all have specific, pre-determined roles in the evacuation process.
7. The result of using an impact-based forecast to take steps with the aim of reducing disaster impacts. This should be a no regret actions, that will benefit the population whether the event happens or not.
8. An excel file document that is used to shortlist municipalities, barangays, and until households. It requires many relevant details on the exposure, capacity, and vulnerability which supports the identification of high-risk areas and households.

DOWN

2. A group, in the regional and provincial level, that consists of government and non-government technical staff that provides guidance to the PRC Chapters in contributing to the EAP. They help guarantee that actions are adhering to any existing policies and plans.
3. When the predicted impact reaches at least 10% of houses totally damaged in at least 3 municipalities.
4. A committee at the community level that pre-identifies beneficiaries together with the Chapter
5. Message that is sent to the PRC Chapters on 4 days prior impact of typhoon or 3 days in case of flooding, that contains possible activation, and the need to initiate some preparatory actions.



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