

Highlights

- During the last quarter of 2020, a series of typhoons made landfall on various islands of the Philippines. The Preparedness Officer contributed to numerous efforts by the national government and international agencies to conduct logistics assessments and identify the response plan. He also supported in coordinating requests by national and sub-national actors for prepositioning and transporting of relief items and logistics equipment as part of their typhoon preparedness and response activities.
- Training materials and references to cover topics in Warehouse and Distribution Management, Transport Management, and Operating Emergency Hubs were prepared by the Preparedness Officer, with support from the Global Logistics Cluster Training Unit, for the Humanitarian Logistics Management Training for the Philippines Red Cross. However, the training was eventually postponed to February 2021 due to COVID-19-related movement restrictions and the typhoons.
- The Preparedness Officer participated in the review of Structure and Terms of Reference (ToR) of the La Niña Technical Working Group. As an alternate focal point of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) Logistics Sectoral Working Group, the Preparedness Officer, together with the World Food Programme (WFP), also spearheaded the ongoing development of plan of action to be undertaken by the Logistics Sectoral Working Group members to ensure cohesion with and support to the National Logistics Cluster's La Niña plan.

Background

Based on risk indices and national-level logistics performance and capacity indicators, in 2018 Philippines was identified as one of 24 country candidates for the Global Logistics Cluster's Field-Based Preparedness Project ("the Project"). The primary aim of the Project is to support and empower national actors to strengthen their capacity to prepare for and respond to humanitarian crises. A key element of this is the facilitation of a coordinated approach towards improving the resilience of local humanitarian supply chains and supporting effective information exchange between the government, national actors and the private sector, to ensure all actors are well prepared for joint humanitarian logistics responses. In the event of a large-scale disaster event and should the Government of the Philippines request international humanitarian assistance, the Global Logistics Cluster capacities can support national actors in facilitating a coordinated response.

In October 2019, a Field Preparedness Officer was recruited to commence the process of mapping national logistics capacities and stakeholders. Based on this, he is currently working with national responders to augment information sharing and exchange as well as assisting in the organisation of capacity strengthening initiatives based on identified partner needs.

In 2020, the Philippines experienced several disasters, including typhoons and the Taal Volcano eruption, reaffirming the need for coordinated logistics preparedness actions.

Coordination

- From late October to mid November 2020, the Philippines experienced five typhoons, Quinta (MOLAVE), Rolly (GONI), Siony (ATSANI), Tony (ETAU) and Ulysses (VAMCO). The Preparedness Officer participated in **logistics assessments following these typhoons** and provided inputs to the following activities from a logistics preparedness perspective:
 - Participated in the joint HCT/Government Rapid Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis (RDANA) for the Province of Catanduanes in connection with the effects of Super Typhoon Rolly (international name GONI).
 - Contributed to the development of Logistics Sectoral Working Group Operational Delivery Plan within the OCHA-led Ad-Hoc Inter-Cluster Coordinating Group (ICCG) meeting for the development of Typhoon Rolly Response Plan.
 - Provided logistics-related information regarding the effects of the typhoons to the members of the HCT, ICCG Logistics Sector, and National Logistics Cluster Working Group.
 - Coordinated with WFP Supply Chain team the requests by the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian on disaster management (AHA Centre)'s Disaster Emergency Logistics System for ASEAN (DELSA) Satellite Warehouse for various response support such as transport of food and non-food relief items, as well as the requests by several Local Government Units (LGU) for logistics response equipment such as Mobile Storage Units (MSU), rescue boats, prefab offices, etc.



Prefab offices for national and sub-national actors' typhoon preparedness and response activities were coordinated by the Preparedness Officer.

- The **Humanitarian Logistics Management training** in partnership with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), HELP Logistics, DSWD, and OCD for the Philippines Red Cross staff was postponed to February 2021 due to COVID-19-related movement restrictions and the series of typhoons that hit the country in November. The Preparedness Officer, with support from the Global Logistics Cluster Training Unit, has prepared training materials and references to cover topics in Warehouse and Distribution Management, Transport Management, and Operating Emergency Hubs. The Preparedness Officer will participate as facilitator for some logistics processes including the simulation exercise.

<https://logcluster.org/preparedness/ph21>

- Plans to present the **National Logistics Cluster Operational Manual** for the approval of the National Disaster Risk Reduction & Management Coordinating Council in December 2020 and to circulate draft National Logistics Cluster Preparedness Working Group Terms of Reference (ToR) to the proposed working group members for their feedback were put on hold as the government counterparts continued with current typhoon recovery and COVID-19 response. The Preparedness Officer is following up with OCD closely on when the activities are likely to resume.
- Together with OCD and DSWD, the Preparedness Officer has **verified existing in-country information sharing platforms** being used by government agencies that might support emergency logistics preparedness. The platforms and their respective functions and purposes were examined and archived for subsequent discussion with the National Logistics Cluster members.
- The Preparedness Officer participated in OCHA-led ICCG meeting and discussion for the **Review of Structure and Terms of Reference (ToR) of the La Niña Technical Working Group (TWG)**. WFP as the lead agency for the Logistics Sectoral Working Group assigned Preparedness Officer as alternate focal person for this TWG.
 - The main purpose of the La Niña Technical Working Group is to coordinate El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) related activities in the country and consolidate early actions of the HCT/ICCG members and share it to INGOs, NNGOs, CSOs and Private Sector.
 - The Preparedness Officer, together with WFP Head of Supply Chain, lead the development of plan of action to be undertaken by the Logistics Sectoral Working Group members in coordination with the National Logistics Cluster's La Niña plan.

Information management

- The quarterly update and infographic for July-September 2020 were published on the [Philippines Preparedness webpage](#).

Contacts

Noel Delos Santos	<i>Field Preparedness Officer, Philippines</i>	noel.delossantos@wfp.org
Jose Angelo Mangaong	<i>Logistics Coordinator - Interoperability and Force Management Division – Office of Civil Defense</i>	jelobhoi@gmail.com
Project email	<i>Field Based Preparedness Project</i>	hq.glc.preparedness@wfp.org