

BUSINESS GUIDE

PHILIPPINES SUPER TYPHOON RAI (ODETTE)

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

DECEMBER 2021

Families evacuated before Typhoon Rai (Odette) made landfall in the Philippines.

Photo Credit: UNICEF / Jag San Mateo



PEOPLE IN NEED

2.4M



PEOPLE DISPLACED

652K



DAMAGED HOUSES

165K

OVERVIEW OF THE CRISIS

Typhoon Rai (locally known as Odette) made initial landfall in Siargao Island, northern Mindanao, in the Philippines, on 16 December 2021. It carried gusts up to 270 km/h with maximum sustained winds of 195 km/h, making it the strongest storm to strike the Philippines this year.

As of 22 December, at least **2.4 million people were affected** across 10 regions. Around **652,000 people have been displaced** with **418,371 people still in evacuation centers**, though many are now slowly returning home. A total of **165K houses have been damaged**, out of which **61,918 are completely destroyed**. Response clusters have been activated in the Caraga Administrative Region and are

being convened under the leadership of the relevant government line agencies. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is supporting overall coordination through the Office of Civil Defense and has published a **Humanitarian Needs and Priorities** with an appeal for funding. Visit [ReliefWeb](#) for the most up-to-date information.

HOW THE PRIVATE SECTOR CAN HELP

1 MAKE A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

Financial contributions to reputable aid agencies are one of the most valuable and effective forms of response in humanitarian emergencies. Public and private sector donors are invited to contribute cash directly to aid organizations participating in the [Humanitarian Needs and Priorities](#) framework. To get the latest updates and donate directly to organizations participating in the response, please visit humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/philippines.

You can also contribute through the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), which provides rapid initial funding for life-saving actions at the onset of emergencies and for poorly funded, essential humanitarian operations in protracted crises. The OCHA-managed CERF receives contributions from various donors – mainly governments, but also private companies, foundations, charities and individuals – which are combined into a single fund. This is used for crises anywhere in the world. Find out more about the CERF and how to donate by visiting cerf.un.org/donate.

The [Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation \(PDRF\)](#) is the major private sector coordinating body for disaster risk reduction and management in the Philippines. PDRF is also a founding Member Network of the OCHA/UNDP [Connecting Business initiative](#) (CBI). PDRF has established a Typhoon Odette relief fund in collaboration with a wide range of companies and other partners; to contribute, please visit bit.ly/Donate-PDRF.

The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has issued an Emergency Appeal for the Philippines, accessible [here](#).

2 MAKE AN IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION OF GOODS OR SERVICES

A Collective Rapid Assessment Report on 19 December highlighted the following areas of need:

- **Education:** Temporary learning spaces; learning kits; psychosocial support.
- **Emergency Shelter, Camp Coordination and Camp Management:** Mosquito nets, solar lamps, plastic tarps and corrugated sheets, shelter equipment.
- **Food Security and Agriculture, Nutrition:** Appropriate and timely agricultural and fisheries assistance, including seeds (rice and corn seeds for immediate planting for the December/January planting season), fertilizers, and assorted vegetable seeds, livestock/poultry and inputs for affected fisherfolk including boats, fingerlings, feeds, and fishing gears; food assistance in some areas in Bohol, Surigao City, Siargao and Dinagat Islands.
- **Health, Sexual Reproductive Health and Mental Health and Psychosocial Services:** Medicines for common illnesses (pain relievers, antibiotics, cough syrups); medical tents; life-saving sexual and reproductive health services and supplies.
- **Protection, including Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence:** Psychosocial support, including to children; access of women and girls to clinical management of rape; continuity of child protection services.
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** Drinking water; water and hygiene kits; water tanks and mobile water filtration machines; construction materials for comfort rooms in evacuation centres; portable comfort rooms; generator sets for water pressure.
- **Early Recovery and Livelihoods:** Fishing boats and gears

For businesses wishing to contribute to relief efforts by providing in-kind goods or services, please reach out to Karen Smith, OCHA's Private Sector Engagement Advisor, at smith3@un.org. Provide as much detail as possible, including what you wish to donate and how much, your timeframe for delivery, details on shipping and any other conditions. We will then guide you to the most appropriate recipient organization(s). Companies with employees, suppliers, or customers in the country or region, or those with existing agreements with responding humanitarian organizations should aim to provide support directly to these groups.

As noted above, PDRF is the major private sector emergency coordinator in the Philippines and is designated as an observer on the United Nations Humanitarian Country Team. PDRF also operates a private sector-led Emergency Operations Center and works in close collaboration with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) and other government offices. For information about in-kind donations through PDRF, please contact:

- Philline Cruz, Cluster Coordinator, pacruz@pdrf.org.ph
- Nikka Villanueva, Cluster Coordinator, bcvillanueva@pdrf.org.ph

3 MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO EARLY RECOVERY

Recovery/development activities should resume at the onset of the crisis, while humanitarian needs are still being addressed. Contributions of technical expertise, infrastructure (re-)development and economic investment are key and must be coordinated with national priorities so that risk conditions are not built back. The United Nations encourages donors to support activities that allow the local private sector to “get back in business” as soon as possible. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and partners are currently working with the Government, companies, and foundations in the Philippines. For more information, please contact connectingbusiness@un.org.

4 MAKE A COMMERCIAL OFFER

If your offer is commercial in nature, please refer to the UN Global Marketplace at ungm.org for more information.

Business-led Emergency Operations Center in the Philippines.
Photo Credit: Philippines Disaster Resilience Foundation



CRITICAL REMINDERS

- The UN Secretary-General encourages companies to coordinate their response efforts with the United Nations and the humanitarian coordination system to ensure **coherence with priority needs and to minimize gaps and duplications with the other responders**.
- All response activities should be guided by the humanitarian principles of **humanity, impartiality, neutrality, and independence**.
- Stakeholder engagement is key to corporate engagement in humanitarian response. Ensuring **communities are at the center** of, and driving humanitarian action, is critical to ensuring appropriate and **timely aid and protection** reaches the people most in need. **Working collaboratively with existing local institutions**, social networks, and civil society is critical in this endeavor.
- Business contributions to UN response efforts must comply with the [Guidelines on Cooperation between the UN and Business Sector](#).
- It is important to ensure that donated items meet the [Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability](#) and reflect **priority needs**.
- Affected people must be at the centre of any humanitarian response, for their increased engagement and empowerment in decision-making to address their specific needs, and to ensure that international response remains accountable to them. In particular, people in need of humanitarian assistance must **be protected from sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)** and have access to channels to report it and have it addressed. Further guidance for the private sector is available [here](#).
- The **risk of transmitting COVID-19** implies specific access requirements and biosafety measures protocols must be followed.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP

For more information on how businesses can help, please contact Karen Smith, OCHA's Private Sector Engagement Advisor, at smith3@un.org. You can also reach out to the Connecting Business initiative team by writing to connectingbusiness@un.org.

WHERE TO FIND THE LATEST INFORMATION

- For an updated list of maps, situation reports, and other information please visit [ReliefWeb](#).
- For additional resources for the private sector, please visit the OCHA/UNDP Connecting Business initiative [Typhoon Rai emergency page](#).