PHILIPPINE DISASTER RESILIENCE FOUNDATION
COVID-19 Response and Recovery Efforts (as of 30 June 2020)

The Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF), together with its member company network and other private sector partners, has been conducting COVID-19 response activities and efforts since March 2020. All member company clusters—namely Power, Fuel, and Energy; Logistics; Infrastructure; Finance & Insurance; Information and Communications Technology; Search and Rescue / Medical; Food & Non-food; and Water & Sanitation—have been mobilized. Below are the PDRF network’s COVID-19 response and recovery efforts as of 30 June 2020:

Project Ugnayan

Project Ugnayan was a multi-sectoral, collaborative effort of the private sector, PDRF, and Caritas Manila that aimed to provide unconditional emergency cash transfers to help economically-vulnerable families in the Greater Manila Area and address the food security needs of those affected by the enhanced community quarantine. The project also supported ABS-CBN’s Pantawid ng Pag-ibig program which delivered food packs to poor communities through local government units (LGUs), Jollibee’s Food Aid program which distributed ready-to-cook meals to communities, and Asian Development Bank (ADB)/Government’s Bayan Bayanihan! program which delivered critical food supplies to the most vulnerable households in Metro Manila and neighboring provinces.

In total, Project Ugnayan reached 2,837,367 families (or over 14.2 million individuals) in various dioceses in Metro Manila, Rizal, Cavite, Bulacan, and Laguna. Cash and in-kind donations amounting to over Php 1.75 billion were received from 220 individual and corporate donors.

Food Security

In partnership with Jollibee Group Foundation, Andok’s Corporation, McDonald’s Kindness Kitchen, Ronald McDonald’s House of Charities, and PILMICO Food Corporation, PDRF distributed 6,445 meals and drinks to 24 hospitals, institutions, quarantine facilities, and other organizations in Metro Manila. The initiative supported the Research Institute of Tropical Medicine, the Philippine General Hospital, and the Department of Health Emergency Operations Center, among others.

Aside from this, Monde MY San Corporation provided a total of 13 cases of biscuits to the Ninoy Aquino Stadium quarantine facility; Coca-Cola Beverages Philippines donated 3,000 cases of Wilkins drinking water, 747 cases of soft drinks, and 12 coolers to quarantine facilities, hospitals, and government facilities; Nutri-Asia gave 100 cases of locally juice drinks to the Ninoy Aquino Stadium and World Trade Center quarantine facilities; Del Monte provided 149 cases of assorted fruit beverages for the Ultra Stadium, World Trade Center, Philippine International Convention Center, and other facilities.

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Center, Rizal Memorial Center, Ninoy Aquino Stadium, and Philippine General Hospital; and Unilever distributed a total of 1,105 boxes/cases of hygiene kits and food items to PDRF partner barangays and the Bigay Buhay Multipurpose Cooperative.

**Project Kaagapay: Protect our Healthcare Heroes**

To bring immediate aid to healthcare workers, PDRF, Zuellig Pharma, ABS-CBN, and Metro Drug joined forces and launched the Kaagapay: Protect our Healthcare Heroes project, a fundraising initiative specifically aimed at providing PPE, medical equipment, and other support for healthcare institutions in the country. As of June 30, Kaagapay has raised more than Php 36 million in cash donations and Php 84 million worth of in-kind donations and has procured and distributed more than 200,000 PPE for 47 healthcare institutions and communities.

**Frontline Stays**

PDRF also worked with Airbnb in providing temporary accommodation to healthcare workers on duty. Due to the community quarantine’s impact on public transportation, frontliners have resorted to sleeping in their respective hospitals, leaving them more vulnerable to illness and unable to fully rest after their shifts. PDRF continues this project with other private sector support and as of June 30, Frontline Stays has supported 239 healthcare workers from four different hospitals. PDRF member company Manila Water Foundation also contributed a total of 310 sanitation kits for this initiative.

**Project Pagasa**

To help scale up medical response efforts in the Philippines and build the pandemic response expertise of Filipino healthcare workers, PDRF—together with the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies (Watson Institute, Brown University) and international relief organization Project HOPE—held a COVID-19 Training of Trainers (TOT) Program for Philippine Health Workers via Zoom Webinar.

The TOT covered topics such as infection prevention and control, contact tracing, and risk communication and public health messaging, which cover areas that are highly essential in helping the country contain the spread of the pandemic. Aside from building the pandemic response capabilities of the participants, the program also sought to quickly build a cadre of competent instructors who can teach other health workers in localities and communities.

Almost 90 doctors, nurses, and health professionals from public and private hospitals and organizations across the country took part in the 4-day training. These trainers engaged and trained 2,103 health workers in 77 hospitals and organizations across the country by the end of the program’s initial run.
Logistics Support

PDRF worked with logistics companies to provide free transport service to medical workers and to deliver PPE, food packs, and hygiene items around Metro Manila during the enhanced community quarantine. This includes the Libreng Sakay initiative for medical and health workers. In partnership with the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Admiral Transport, the Department of Labor and Employment, and Phoenix Petroleum Philippines, PDRF deployed ten buses for this initiative.

In addition, Transportify assisted in the distribution of two tons of PPE to Marikina Valley Medical Center; Royal Cargo Shipping delivered four tons of PPE, hospital tents, and sanitation kits to Veterans Memorial Medical Center and transported two tons or 149 cases of beverages from Unilever Philippines to PDRF partner barangays in Quezon City (Barangays Dona Imelda, Talayan, Bagumbayan, Commonwealth); WExpress provided transport assistance for the delivery of 1.5 tons or 33 boxes of coveralls to St. Luke’s Medical Center; Lalamove made 19 food assistance deliveries, six medical supply assistance deliveries, and two sanitation kit deliveries (total of 1.5 tons); Stat Med Ambulance Service made seven food assistance deliveries (total of 1 ton); and Kairo Cargo Group provided seven food assistance deliveries and one medical supply assistance delivery (total of 1.3 tons).

UPS also provided free airlift of 10 tons of medical grade fabric from Shenzhen Bao’an International Airport to Clark International Airport last April 14 to April 25. This fabric was used for the creation of protective suits for frontliners. Through free land transport, Air21 then delivered the fabric from Clark International Airport to the PPE manufacturing unit of Reliance Producers Cooperative in Carmona, Cavite.

Cebu Pacific and Pacific Global 1 also provided free flights to transport PPE from Manila (MNL) to Cagayan, General Santos City, and Cotabato and flew a team from the International Committee of the Red Cross Philippines to Cebu and Cotabato, where they would be setting up COVID-19 treatment facilities. Aside from this, Cebu Pacific provided staggered flights for the transport of 366 boxes of PPE, ten hospital tents, and five sanitation kits (total of 3.4 tons) to Cebu.

Online Events

PDRF led and co-organized several online events, highlighting useful tools and information on COVID-19 response and recovery, tackling COVID-19’s socio-economic impacts, and sharing recovery insights from industry experts, government agencies, humanitarian groups, and private sector networks.

On May 28, PDRF held the “Shaping Business Resiliency 2020: The Private Sector’s Response to the New Normal” virtual forum to discuss and address the challenges that businesses face as they
respond and transition to the “new normal.” Held in partnership with the Management Association of the Philippines, the forum was attended by over 750 representatives from the business sector, humanitarian groups, and government agencies.

Together with the Philippine Exporters Confederation, the Employers Confederation of the Philippines, and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, PDRF also organized the eight-part #ResilientandRecoveryPH eForum series. Topics covered include:

- Stakeholders Speak: How COVID-19 has affected the movement of goods and people
- MSME Funding Post-COVID 19: Government and Private Sector Roles
- Local and Global Supply Chains: Quick Assessment and Ways Forward
- Market Adjustments and Sustainability: Where do We Sell from Here
- Crisis-Proofing Technologies and Innovations
- Preserving Jobs: Reshaping the Future of Work and the Talent Pool
- Institutionalizing MSME Business Continuity Plans
- Plugging the Bleeding: Quick Wins and Long-term Plans

In partnership with the USAID Strengthening Urban Resilience for Growth with Equity Project, PDRF conducted three webinar sessions on Business Continuity and Recovery for the Tourism Sector of cities Puerto Princesa, Tagbilaran, Legazpi and Iloilo. These were intended to help the tourism sector recover and bounce back as it was identified to be one of the most affected by the pandemic. Industry leaders from government agencies and private organizations including the Department of Tourism, Deloitte, Ayala Land Corporation, and Megaworld Hotels shared their insights and the best practices that micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) can apply to their own enterprise. These events also served as an avenue for MSMEs to impart early recovery tools and strategies. In total, more than 250 representatives from the business sector and government offices attended the sessions.

Launch of the COVID-19 Resource Hub

In May, PDRF launched the PDRF COVID-19 Resource Hub, a website containing resources that are essential to the Philippine private sector in responding to and recovering from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Featuring articles on private sector best practices, guidelines and technical reports, webinars, and stories of hope, the PDRF COVID-19 Resource Hub curates useful, reliable, and timely information from local and international sources to provide businesses and enterprises with the necessary tools in building the overall resilience of the country.
Release of online resources

Aside from releasing regular situational reports via email to its member network, PDRF also contributed to the creation of online resources such as toolkits and guidebooks on disaster risk reduction and management and pandemic preparedness, response, and recovery. Information, education, and communication (IEC) materials released include:

- Work-from-Home Emergency Bag checklist for typhoon, earthquake, and pandemic preparedness
- Enterprise Pandemic Preparedness Toolkit (English, Filipino, Hiligaynon, Cebuano)
- MSME Guide to Disaster Resilience guidebook
- COVID-19 Small Business Continuity and Recovery Planning Toolkit (Filipino, Cebuano)
- COVID-19 FAQs for LGUs (Filipino)

Recovery Initiatives for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises

Understanding the need to support small and medium enterprises in navigating through post-pandemic scenarios that might emerge, PDRF is also harnessing private sector resources and the technical expertise of its network and partner organizations to design programmatic interventions suited for recovery and strategic foresight planning.

With the intention of supporting the Inter-agency Task Force Technical Working Group for Anticipatory and Forward Planning (IATF-TWG-AFP), PDRF will be developing policy briefs for SME recovery and foresight planning for COVID-19 and creating a Recovery and Strategic Foresight Toolkit for SMEs.

The policy briefs are envisioned to: secure the continuity of the supply chain for essential commodities and services such as food, time-critical productive and agricultural inputs, sexual and reproductive health, and non-food items; and provide value-adding recommendations to the IATF-TWG-AFP in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

The recovery and strategic foresight toolkit will address the need for a practical guidance toolkit that outlines recovery ground rules based on strategic foresight to help identify emerging threats and cover uncertainties brought about by the pandemic crisis.

As part of this initiative, PDRF—together with UNDP and UN OCHA and with the support of the Connecting Business initiative (CBi)—recently launched the SIKAP (Synergizing Recovery Initiatives, Knowledge, and Adaptation Practices for MSMEs) website, a unified online business recovery hub for MSMEs which contains practical and useful business tips, available loan
programs from government agencies and private sector organizations, and mentorship opportunities for MSMEs.