Two years on: Typhoon Haiyan Response
Two years on: Typhoon Haiyan Response | November 2015

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About the cover: A smile for the future. Angel, 5, is practicing her penmanship at her school that was damaged by Typhoon Haiyan in November 2013. Several classrooms were destroyed in her school, prompting World Vision to provide temporary learning spaces to ensure children could continue with their education.

Photo credit: Mark Nonkes
Foreword

Typhoon Haiyan hit the Visayas region of the Philippines in November 2013. Two years since, World Vision has seen survivors turn their personal grief into collective strength and unity and turn their losses into leadership and ownership of their own recovery. Two years on, disaster-affected communities are starting to enjoy the hard-earned fruits of their labour.

World Vision continues to work with communities to build resilience against future disasters, and it is our hope that people would continue to have access to improved social services, to pursue diverse livelihoods and withstand future calamities.

The long road to rehabilitation continues. We remain grateful to all our partners, donors and staff for their unwavering support and generosity.

Padayon ta!

Josaias Dela Cruz
World Vision Philippines
National Director
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A note from the Response Director

World Vision has worked in the Philippines for 58 years. When staff arrived on the ground immediately after Typhoon Haiyan hit there were scenes of utter devastation.

After any disaster the needs are simple – food, water, shelter, health care – but the conditions for delivering them make the task incredibly complex. World Vision was one of some 65 international non-government organisations (INGOs) and local NGOs responding to the emergency in those first few crucial days; now, World Vision is one of approximately 13 remaining agencies focusing on rehabilitation.

Tacloban’s hardest-hit areas still have the majority of residents struggling to meet daily needs and living in sub-standard housing, making them vulnerable to the impact of future storms, and the Philippines experiences more than 20 typhoons each season.

While our response spanned much farther than Tacloban City – across affected areas in Leyte, Cebu and Panay – the majority of people no longer need our assistance. This has led to the appropriate transition out of our response offices in Cebu, Panay and Ormoc, leaving only the East Leyte office to run the remaining programmes in the communities that need them.

As we look to the final year of this response, our aim is to continue to help those who most need it in Tacloban City, and work with them to provide safer environments for their children to live, play and learn.

DINEEN TUPA
Typhoon Haiyan Response Director
Introduction

Since Typhoon Haiyan devastated the Philippines in November 2013, significant progress has been made: homes have been rebuilt, preparations for future disasters have been inherent in the recovery and people are returning to normality. World Vision was on the ground with life-saving essentials shortly after the typhoon struck. The first 72-hours of an emergency are critical to meet the urgent, immediate needs of affected families. The relief efforts were widespread, spanning 566 villages in 48 municipalities, in seven different provinces. UNISDR attributed US$13 billion in losses to the economy as a result of the typhoon.¹

In the last 24 months, World Vision has reached 1,638,833 people; almost nine percent of the total population in the Visayas. Many people needed help in more than one area of assistance, whether that be through shelter, livelihoods, disaster risk reduction (DRR), training in health and nutrition or community infrastructure.

In March 2014, World Vision’s Typhoon Haiyan Response (THR) moved from the emergency phase to the recovery phase, focusing on a multi-sector integrated approach to support household needs with health; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); shelter; and livelihood. At this time, there was a focus on wider-reaching community needs such as education, health, WASH, and assistance with other community infrastructure. In early 2015 the rehabilitation phase began, with a clear emphasis on livelihood activities; the baseline survey conducted in June 2014² indicated that vulnerable families and communities were having difficulties moving on due to the lack of opportunities to earn a regular income.

Hope for Tacloban’s Children – a World Vision project dedicated to providing children with a safer space to live, learn and play – started in 2015 in some of the most impoverished areas of Tacloban City. Interventions include disaster risk reduction (including preparedness measures), livelihood support, and the rehabilitation of basic community assets. These activities will help make families less vulnerable to future disasters, which is imperative in one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. THR will direct its efforts in 2015 and 2016 towards the under-served in Tacloban City, aiming to increase their quality of life and incomes.³

¹ http://www.unisdr.org/archive/36205
² 1350 respondents participated in household survey, 597 children participated in the emergency development assets profile (EM-DAP) questionnaires and 253 participants engaged in focus group discussion.
³ UN OCHA, Situation Report No.34 (as of 28 January 2014).
Shelter

Objective: Provide support for shelter rehabilitation and meet immediate needs of families in World Vision’s target areas.

Typhoon Haiyan destroyed 500,000 homes and left the same number again severely damaged. Roughly 4.1 million people were displaced.

The loss of a home makes a significant difference to a family’s ability to deal with hardships. Losing shelter makes an individual or a family, and especially a child, vulnerable and insecure.

World Vision chose areas to assist people based on vulnerability: 99.5 percent of families in World Vision response areas suffered damage to their homes, and 61.4 percent homes were completely destroyed. Repair and reconstruction were the main priorities, and those who were least able to recover on their own were targeted for this intervention.

Most families were able to fix or build their own homes with materials and training provided by World Vision. Build-back-better workshops trained

99.5% of people in World Vision response areas had damaged homes; 61.4% were completely destroyed.

Estilita, 63, is very happy to live in her new home together with her two grandchildren.
people to build back with safer structures, and World Vision shelter specialists monitored construction.

Approximately eight percent of beneficiaries couldn’t fix their own homes, including the elderly, child-headed families and those with disabilities. They received labour assistance as well as materials to complete transitional shelter. Shelter construction was coordinated with the installation or rehabilitation of household latrine facilities.

To increase the pool of people available for reconstruction activities, the response engaged TESDA – the national technical education institute – to provide certification for carpenters who could then be employed for work.

These people were selected from World Vision- assisted areas and now have the skills and nationally recognised qualifications to not only construct typhoon-resistant homes and undertake repairs, but also teach others.

In 2015, evaluation results showed that 81 percent of shelter assistance beneficiaries were satisfied with World Vision’s shelter interventions, particularly the quality of materials distributed. From the focus group discussion with children, participants listed the World Vision-supported activities of building and repairing houses – and providing shelter materials – as the most useful in addressing their priority shelter problems.

4 1386 households survey, 40 community leader survey and 231 girls and boy in FGD, May 2015.
12,939 people attended build-back-better workshops
12,368 families received shelter materials and tools
884 families received full housing packages, including shelter materials and tools
426 carpenters were trained and provided with tools
Water, health and sanitation

Objective: Improve community access to safe water sources, appropriate sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion activities.

In the immediate wake of Typhoon Haiyan, even children were listing water as their priority need, reporting long queues and unsettling discord in the community due to the inadequate water supply.

One young boy said: “After the typhoon, the water was dirty. A lot of people fought each other while waiting in line to fetch water, and it seemed like they would kill each other.”

A teenage girl said: “We got water from a deep well and water pump. The water got dirty from flooding. There were faucets, but we could not use them because there was no electricity. We just boiled water so that we had something to drink.”

To contribute to the creation of a safe and healthy environment World Vision provided water, sanitation and health (WASH) facilities at the household level in coordination with shelter activities, including latrine repair kits, septic tanks and full latrine reconstruction for the most vulnerable families.

Water hand pumps, water tanks, water systems and public drainage were repaired or reconstructed by World Vision in targeted communities, including schools, educational institutions and community health facilities.

Some families earned an income through cash-for-work; a way to earn money while repairing water and sanitation facilities. Hygiene promotion training was also done to promote ‘zero open defecation’ within communities and better hygiene behaviour.
**WASH**

11,099 families received latrine kits & construction materials as a part of their shelter assistance.

1,266 families received a latrine at their home.

10,122 children have access to facilities installed in their schools.

17,850 community members have access to the rehabilitated water pumps and water tanks.

127 hygiene promotion training activities took place.

81,182 people reached.

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Education

Objective: Improve access to safe, child-friendly learning environments for children.

Children identified education as their top priority in the baseline survey. In evaluations conducted of households in May 2015, education-related expenses such as school fees and uniforms were the second main expense following food. This identifies education as a continuing concern for those affected by Typhoon Haiyan.

In the initial days after the typhoon, World Vision provided temporary learning spaces for students and teachers in an attempt to maintain normality in a time of chaos. The main focus was on creating temporary classrooms and providing some school supplies and water.

Repair and reconstruction of 18 schools took place, including essential WASH facilities and child-safe classrooms, in which pupils could continue their education. This has been an ongoing effort over the last two years; schools are now completed and were handed back to the community in September 2015.

Daniella is happy with their new classrooms. ‘I always feel excited coming to school now that it has been fixed, and is beautiful,’ she expresses.

5 1350 respondents participated in household survey, 597 children participated in the emergency development assess profile (EM-DAP) questionnaires and 253 participants engaged in focus group discussion.
EIGHTEEN schools were repaired, reaching 6,059 children.

Until this was complete, temporary learning spaces were provided.

6,546 learners kits were distributed to children in the emergency phase.

In the emergency phase, 353 teachers received much needed kits with goods to empower them to keep teaching.

152 day-care-centre kits were provided in the wake of the emergency.

3,044 young children benefiting.
Health facilities and services

Objective: Improve access to adequate and appropriate health facilities and services for communities.

The baseline survey showed that 88.5 percent of respondents rated access to formal medical facilities as a major problem. While large hospitals are functioning normally, many of the complaints surrounding health care related to long waits, rushed services and transportation fees; indicating that medical services may be unavailable in people’s immediate vicinities. Another major complaint was insufficient medical supplies.

From the initial findings of the evaluation report of the Health and Nutrition Project (August 2015), respondents perceived decreased immunity and unsanitary living conditions linked to the damage brought by the typhoon as factors predisposing their communities to diseases such as respiratory illness, diarrhea, typhoid and parasites.

World Vision repaired or reconstructed 21 community health centres — including WASH facilities — to improve access to primary care. World Vision’s health centre rehabilitations included providing essential equipment to carry out duties such anthropometric (as antenatal support) and measuring implements as well as the supply of medicine, vitamins and other micronutrient supplies.

A community member said: “A lot of pregnant women are getting their prenatal check-ups here in the community health centre. This is It [health training] is really a big help because I really did not know how to use the equipment before. The community health workers can now perform the basic health services the community members needed. I can help the community as a result of the knowledge I learned from the trainings.”

Female Barangay Health Worker

because World Vision provided complete assistance for the health centre, so there’s no need for people to go somewhere else.”

World Vision focused on the capacity building of community health workers, assessed and trained in coordination with the municipal-level health authorities. Health workers were trained in how to use the provided equipment as well as important context-specific health topics such as World Health Organization Child Growth Standards (WHO CGS), micro-nutrient orientation, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and Psychological First Aid (PFA). Promotional materials covering these topics as well as self-care, basic life support and other health-related issues – including de-worming, personal hygiene and healthy lifestyle – were also distributed in the communities.

Interviewees said they gained knowledge on a wide range of health topics from the training World Vision provided. Some said they did not have the chance to be formally trained on these topics prior.

Joy, 33, is thankful that they have now access to health facilities and services.

7 Key Informant Interview (KII), West Leyte (Draft Evaluation Report: Health & Nutrition Project, August 2015)
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Health

22 community health centres repaired and provided with equipment for obstetric/maternal care

reaching 28,650 community members

Medical supplies for nutritional assessment provided to 51 health centres, reaching 58,426 people

43 health centres were provided with micro-nutrients and de-wormers for children, reaching 59,017 people

965 people attended psychological first aid sessions across 33 trainings in the emergency phase
Livelihoods

Objective: Increase productivity and income-generation capacity for typhoon-affected families involved in agriculture, including farm labourers.

The high winds and storm surge in coastal areas caused widespread damage to houses, community assets including schools and hospitals, as well as infrastructure such as power lines and water systems. Some 5.9 million people had their livelihoods ruined or disrupted, and when the typhoon destroyed 33 million coconut trees, it ensured a significant proportion of those people would be farmers. A coconut tree takes about eight years to grow from seedling to bear fruit, so communities needed alternative jobs and industries to make a living and begin to recover.

World Vision identified that farmers needed training to use sustainable crop production techniques; organic natural farming techniques; principles and practices of intercropping, and seed multiplication and replication. With this information and training, their reliance on purchased goods would be minimised, allowing them to be more resilient in the face of future disasters. World Vision also conducted training in livestock husbandry, and distributed seeds and small livestock and feed packs.

“We used the money to buy more piglets and chickens, and to pay rental for the use of tractor.”

Male beneficiary Dagami, Leyte

Julius, 52, and his five-year-old daughter Mary Rose. ‘We have received what we need, now we need to do our role.’ he said.
As well as supporting the recovery of agricultural and fisheries production, World Vision also provided demand-driven vocational skills training to vulnerable households to increase their income-generating capacity. Toolkits and capital to facilitate business start-ups were provided to enable self-employment. These interventions assisted with incomes to enable families to access the resources needed to meet their food, education and health expenses and ensure that they have the skills to bounce back and recover in the event of a future disaster.

The evaluation in early 2015 showed that one-third of the communities reported that they were able to fully meet their top three household expenditure needs, compared to the baseline survey in 2014 indicating that only one-fifth of the baseline felt this way. The monitoring conducted on livelihood interventions in August 2015 demonstrated further improvement, showing more than 40 percent of the households were able to fully meet their top household priorities. Among households that are able to either fully or partially meet their top household expenses, most attribute involvement in a World Vision project as helpful in meeting their expenses.

Jane, 7, loves to help at their sari-sari store. "I am happy that I can help my parents in this simple way, especially when they are busy," she says.
Livelihoods

7,303 people received livestock replacement

2,149 people received agricultural products and tools for the production of crops

446 families had their fishing equipment replaced

3,677 people received business start-up support

14,079 people undertook agricultural, fisheries and livelihood training
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Cash-for-Work

Objective: Increase community engagement in the rehabilitation of basic services

The baseline survey conducted shortly after the disaster indicated that only 20.3 percent of families were able to meet their top three monthly expenditures, with few indicating recovery from the adverse economic impacts of Typhoon Haiyan. In response to this, World Vision’s cash-for-work interventions were designed to assist beneficiaries to meet their basic needs such as food, shelter and health, whilst stimulating the recovery of local markets before medium- to long-term livelihood solutions were available. This work was also adapted in several communities to focus on activities that would support disaster risk reduction.

In the early recovery phase, cash-for-work was employed to foment community ownership of the recovery and rehabilitation process and increase the level of community engagement. World Vision employed beneficiaries to undertake the repair and reconstruction of communal assets. About half of the community leaders interviewed in the end-of-grant evaluation reported that people in their communities had carried out World Vision work projects, resulting in much-needed new or improved community assets.

The most recent evaluation reported that families who engaged in cash-for-

Nenita, 38, a single parent is thankful to be a part of the cash-for-work project which helped her earn income, and her community to recover.
work considered the intervention important and timely. The evaluation was conducted following the food distribution, at a time where families were in need of income to cover ongoing food expenses. Education expenses – the second major expense identified by households – were reported to be covered by the income gained from cash-for-work. At the community level, cash-for-work was considered beneficial to facilitate rehabilitation of community assets, increase social cohesion and promote coordination.

20,011 people participated in cash-for-work activities
Disaster risk reduction

Objective: To improve capacity to decrease vulnerability to disasters and climate change risks.

The Philippines is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world, experiencing earthquakes, floods, typhoons, volcanic eruptions, as well as human-made conflict. Disasters can easily set a country back for years and can wash away all investment on recovery and development efforts in an instant.

Investing in disaster risk reduction (DRR) is as important as, if not more than, investing in recovery efforts. The DRR strategy of THR intends to respond to the acute need for DRR within the country. Interventions to date have been working on supporting local capacity – including local government units (LGUs) and the communities – to be prepared to face the challenges of disasters yet to come. Sixteen trainings have been held, reaching 529 participants.

THR supported LGUs to map out their disaster risk, which is an important reference for DRR measures. World Vision conducted trainings for LGU

Marlita, Edna and Lorna work together to plant mangroves on the shoreline of their community. When grown, mangrove act as boundary against strong waves which would otherwise directly hit the homes closest to the shore.

Photo credit: Franklin Salindato / World Vision
representatives that covered various aspects of disaster management to better equip them to handle risk in their communities. These sessions covered topics such as child-focused community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM), post-disaster access and need analysis (PDANA), and early warning systems (EWS).

Necessary supplies were supplied to nine LGUs that had their equipment damaged in the storm, such as EWS monitoring equipment to better equip them to handle risk in the communities.

THR will continue to build communities’ capacity to cope with and adapt to the negative impact of hazards through structural and non-structural interventions. Structural interventions may include mangrove rehabilitation, slope stabilisation and drainage system improvements, depending on the need and the context of communities. Non-structural interventions will include community level awareness-raising and capacity building.

Monitoring in August 2015 showed that more than half of the respondents considered their household as better prepared for any disaster common in the area than before Typhoon Haiyan.
Hope for Tacloban’s Children Project

World Vision began this project with a community clean-up in some of the hardest hit urban areas. To minimise the threat of flooding and to provide a more hygienic environment for the over-crowded, highly vulnerable communities, canals were unblocked, unsafe debris was removed and drainage was cleaned out.

This was facilitated through cash-for-work – encouraging communities’ participation to increase ownership. A much needed cash injection to these communities was well-received; with many people still struggling to move forward two years after Typhoon Haiyan.

World Vision will provide additional assistance to income-generation skills for individuals. The rehabilitation of shared community spaces will also be a key objective in the future stages of this project.

Into 2016, World Vision will continue to assist these under-served communities to provide safer environment for children so that they have a place that they can call home that doesn’t present immediate health and safety issues – a place where children can simply be children.

Hope for Tacloban’s Children is designed to create safe environments for children to live, play and learn. When considering the impact of disasters, children are often overlooked, yet they are affected in all areas of their lives – home, school and play – which, unless addressed, will hinder them from living full lives.

April, 6, Rachel, 6 and Kim, 8 have just picked flowers for their mothers; amongst the backdrop of waste and sludge, these children see hope, knowing that their community is making it a safer, cleaner space for them to play.
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