



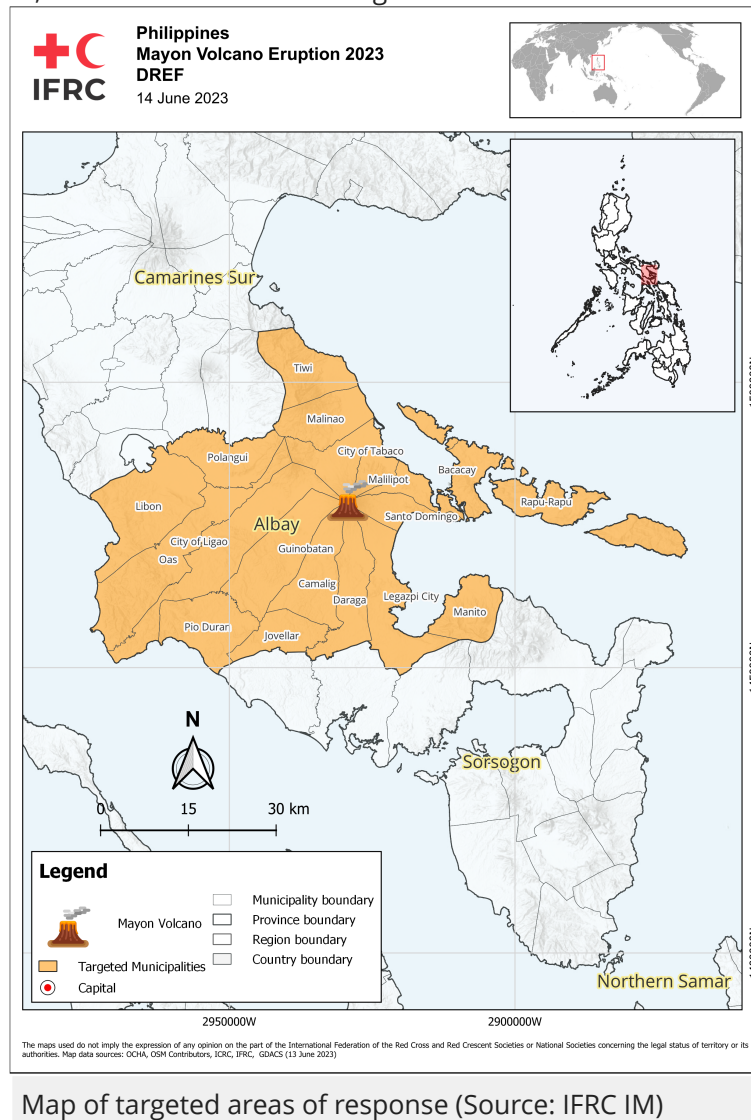
Philippines Red Cross Humanitarian Caravan deployed for imminent response. (Photo: PRC)

Appeal: MDRPH051	Country: Philippines	Hazard: Volcanic Eruption	Type of DREF Imminent
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Slow	DREF Allocation: CHF 140,363	
Glide Number: VO-2023-000099-PHL	People at risk: 16,000 people	People Targeted: 7,500 people	
Operation Start Date: 2023-06-18	Operation Timeframe: 3 months	Operation End Date: 2023-09-30	DREF Published: 2023-06-19
Targeted Areas:	Region V (Bicol region)		

Description of the Event

Approximate date of impact

On 5 June 2023, the Philippines Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHILVOCS), a department of the Department of Science and Technology, raised the status alert level for Mayon Volcano in Albay Province, Region V (Bicol Region) from Alert Level 1 to Alert Level 2. This decision was taken due to the repeated collapses of the growing summit dome of the volcano, which caused an increasing number and volume of rockfall events.



What is expected to happen?

The average number of rockfall events per day increased from 5 to 49. Further, on 8 June 2023, PHIVOLCS-DOST raised the alert status of Mayon Volcano from Alert Level 2 to Alert Level 3. During the period of 5-8 June 2023, a total of 267 rockfall events and 2 volcanic earthquakes were recorded. Additionally, three Pyroclastic Density Current (PDC) events were observed on the Bonga (southeast) and Basud (east) Gullies.

This new status indicates that Mayon Volcano is exhibiting a magmatic eruption of a summit lava dome, which increases the chances of lava flows and hazardous PDCs affecting the upper to middle slopes of the volcano. There is also a potential for ashfall and volcanic gas emissions that can pose health hazards to nearby communities. As a result, PHILVOCS-DOST advises the public to avoid entry into the 6-km radius Permanent Danger Zone (PDZ) and to be vigilant against the effects of volcanic hazards, including rockfalls, landslides, and ashfall. The agency also urges

local government units to implement necessary preparations and contingency measures to ensure the safety of their constituents.

The declaration of a state of calamity in Albay on 9 June 2023, indicates the severity of the situation and the urgent need for government response to ensure the safety and welfare of those affected. The mandatory evacuation of residents within the PDZ is a necessary precaution to prevent loss of life and property damage from the potential hazards of volcanic activity.

The increase in rockfall and pyroclastic density observed in recent days highlights the unpredictability and danger of Mayon Volcano. The NDRRMC's recommendation for the evacuation of the population within the PDZ and the preparation of those within the EDZ demonstrates the importance of being prepared for disasters and taking proactive measures to minimize their impact.

The evacuation efforts are being carried out in coordination with local government units, national agencies, and non-government organizations to ensure that the needs of the affected population are met. The government is also providing support in terms of relief goods, medical assistance, and transportation to evacuation centers.

Over 2,000 families, or 10,578 people living within the six-kilometer radius Permanent Danger Zone (PDZ), have been evacuated due to the danger of PDCs, lava flows, rockfalls and other volcanic hazards on 9 June 2023. It is expected that at least 4,600 families (16,000 individuals) will be accommodated in evacuation sites if 7-km radius has been considered at risk, which is highly likely.

On June 10 2023, according to the Bulletin #1 of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, (NDRRMC), 2,638 families or 9,314 individuals were evacuated in 21 evacuation centres. The Council recommends that the population living in the 6 km radius, or Permanent Danger Zone, would be evacuated.

Based on the identified priority and vulnerable municipalities from Philippines Statistics Office (PSA), there are 190,060 families (838,933 individuals) in 8 municipalities (Tobaco, Ligao, Guinobatan, Camalig, Daraga, Legazpi, Sto. Domingo and Malilipot) of Albay province that may possibly be affected.

Based on the disaster reports from Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council and of the local chapter, there are 115 identified evacuation areas in the provinces and there are 8 municipalities under the 6 km PDZ are at risk of PDCs, lava flows, rockfall, and other volcanic hazards. The population for each of the affected municipalities are Camalig (72,042 individuals), Daraga (133,893 individuals), Guinobatan (85,786 individuals), Legazpi (209,533 individuals), Ligao (118,096 individuals), Malilipot (40,857 individuals), Santo Domingo (37,765 individuals), Bacacay (72,485 individuals), and City of Tabaco (140,961 individuals).



PRC in close coordination with the local government (Photo: PRC)

Why your National Society is acting now and what criteria is used to launch this operation.

Based on the evolving situation, if there is any phreatic or magmatic eruption at Mt. Mayon volcano and the government authorities escalate the situation by raising the alert Level to 4 (in a system where 1 is lowest level of alert and 5 is highest level of alert). In that case, PRC may decide to go for a Response DREF, assisting significantly more people with full range of response services

Scope and Scale

The recent volcanic activity in the area has resulted in the disruption of the lives of many families and communities. According to official reports, 10,578 people have been evacuated with a total of 2,638 families (9,314 people) registered within evacuation centers due to the risk of volcanic eruption. To ensure their safety and well-being, these families have been served inside 21 evacuation centres.

In addition, the Department of Education has suspended classes in schools located within the 6-7 km PDZ due to the ongoing volcanic activity. As per NDRRMC, there are total of 15 schools in 5 municipalities declared suspension. As a result, 39 identified schools that were intended to function as evacuation centres for pre-evacuated families have also been affected.

The Albay Province Local Government has declared a state of calamity for eight municipalities in the area. This declaration will enable the authorities to respond more effectively to the needs of the affected communities.

The Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office V (DA-RFO5) has advised farmers to move their animals to safer areas and secure their farming equipment and machinery. All farming activities within the danger zone have been temporarily discontinued until further advice from the authorities. This will inevitably limit the regular livelihood activities of the affected families and communities.

Despite the challenges brought about by the volcanic activity, there are no reported damages to houses or infrastructures, water supply, seaport and airports, and lifelines are working properly. The authorities are closely monitoring the situation and will provide updates as necessary.

Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	Yes
Did it affect the same population groups?	Yes
Did the National Society respond?	Yes
Did the National Society request funding from DREF for that event(s)?	Yes
If yes, please specify which operations	MDRPH027

If you have answered yes to all questions above, justify why the use of DREF for a recurrent event, or how this event should not be considered recurrent

Although same areas were not impacted, it is important to mention that a DREF (MDRPH027) allocation of CHF 337,158 was made on 20 January 2018, to assist 15,000 people affected due to Mt. Mayon volcanic eruption.



Moreover, IFRC provided DREF (MDRPH039) assistance of CHF498,602 to assist 15,00 people impacted due to Taal volcanic eruption on 12 January 2020. Again, on 1 July 2021, the alert level was raised to Level 3 for Taal volcano and IFRC provided an imminent DREF (MDRPH043) support of CHF 54,331 to assist 5,000 people impacted by the pre-emptive actions.

Lessons learned

Earlier in January 2018, Mt. Mayon volcano had sudden phreatic eruptions, which led to large evacuations, and people remained displaced for 3–4 months, until the government advised people to go back to their houses, in the 6 km radius of the volcano.

On 13 January 2018, at 17H00, Mayon Volcano generated a phreatic eruption, generating steam and ash approximately 2,500 metres high. The next day (14 January), at 00H30 more phreatic eruptions occurred, and the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHILVOLCS) raised Mayon from alert Level I (abnormal) to alert Level II (increasing unrest). On the same day (14 January), at 11H40: Mayon's crater exhibited signs of a new lava dome and lava flow began towards the southern slopes. PHILVOLCS raised the alert to Level III (high unrest), signifying an increased tendency towards hazardous eruption, that magma was at the crater and that hazardous eruption was possible within weeks or even days.

With the Level III alert raised, PHILVOLCS recommended a 6-km permanent danger zone and a 7-km extended danger zone be enforced – prohibiting all unauthorized human activities within the extended radius – due to danger of rockfalls, landslides and sudden explosions or dome collapse that might have generated hazardous volcanic flows. On 15 January, two lava collapse events occur, producing rockfall and small-volume pyroclastic density currents. Ash clouds were produced with ashfalls reported in 39 barangays in the municipalities of Camalig and Guinobatan, southwest of the volcano. On 16 January, lava flow and more rockfall events were observed. It was reported that more than 3,000 tons of sulfur dioxide was emitted by Mayon on this day – six times the normal daily emission. The provincial board declared Albay under state of calamity – allowing local governments to use their calamity funds for relief operation.

On 6 March 2018, the alert level of the volcano had been downgraded to Level 3 due to declining in unrest reflected by moderate seismicity and degassing, deflation of the edifice, and a decrease in eruptive activity at the summit crater. As of 8 March 2018, over 49,000 people were still taking shelter in 48 evacuation centers. IFRC provided DREF (MDRPH027) assistance of CHF 337,158 to assist 15,000 people affected (mostly displaced) due to the volcanic eruption. Finally, on 3 April, the government lowered its Alert Level to Level 2, and reported the return of all Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) to their respective places of origin.

Similarly, Taal volcano erupted on 12 January 2020, and the situation was de-escalated rapidly by 26 January 2020. IFRC provided DREF (MDRPH039) assistance of CHF498,602 to assist 15,00 people. In another incident, on 1 July 2021, the alert Level was raised to Level 3 and IFRC provided imminent DREF (MDRPH043) support of CHF 54,331 to assist 5,000 people impacted by the pre-emptive actions.

The above chronology of events suggest that Mt. Mayon volcano (like any other active volcano) is unpredictable, in relation to hazardous eruption. The alert level and intensity of rockfall, lava-flow and magmatic activities can intensify or subdue at any point. Considering the previous large eruption in January 2018, the following lessons learned may help PRC and IFRC anticipate better and be used as triggers to support PRC with an imminent DREF to continue its humanitarian assistance to people affected by Mount Mayon Volcanic activities:-

1. In 2018, the alert level rapidly escalated from Level I to Level IV between 13 and 16 January (4 days). It was learnt that the situation may escalate rapidly and need adequate level of preparedness and readiness at the chapter level, as well as pre-positioned items.
2. Previously, the nature of eruption was phreatic. However, this time the eruption could be magmatic in nature, which may intensify the impact.
3. Previously, the local government started evacuation and declared a state of calamity on 16 January 2018, upon the eruption; fortunately, this time the local authority already declared a state of calamity and started evacuation with 6km radius of Mt. Mayon prior to actual eruption.



4. Rockfall and volcanic earthquake (two on 9 and 10 June nights) increased significantly over last three days.
5. Based on 2018 eruption, it is highly likely that the people would stay in the evacuation centres for 3–4 months if an eruption happens and the alert level is not de-escalated.
6. Moreover, this time, the heavy rain around Bicol area may lead to Lahar (a mudflow or debris flow that originates on the slopes of a volcano. Lahars can be formed when high-volume or long-duration rainfall occurs during or after an eruption and trigger small to medium land sliding).

Lessons learned from previous DREFs responding to volcanic eruptions and a few recent operations in the Philippines will shape some of the assumptions and mitigating impacts, which may save resources and efforts, as well as provide a better and more efficient working environment for people working on the operation.

1. Situations in a volcanic eruption may change rapidly, hence it is important to mobilize volunteers, resources, and equipment in advance. There is hardly any time to streamline preparedness once an eruption happens.
2. Extra precautions must be considered if there is heavy rain – since it may lead to Lahar and the damages to lives and properties (including livelihoods) may increase significantly.
3. Every volunteer and staff should be provided with MAAB, PPE, and other health protection equipment (since the SO₂ emission can be severe) and volunteers and beneficiaries may develop severe breathing difficulty, allergic reaction etc.
4. The evacuations centres often get overwhelmed when it comes to sanitation facilities, hence additional mobile toilets must be provided. This may reduce the risk of open defecation and thus, diarrheal diseases.
5. The sanitation facilities should be well-lit, and men and women facilities should be far from each other. Women, girl and boy children and encouraged to go to the toilets with another known person.
6. Partition must be provided in the evacuation centres, which may ensure basic privacy and protect dignity.
7. Ambulance and transportation facilities should be pre-arranged; during the eruption people especially with con-morbidities, asthma and poor lungs health may turn critical in very short span of time.
8. Adequate (even sometime more than Sphere standard) clean water shall be available to each family to stay hydrated and wash face, eyes, and hands frequently.
9. The chapter should have enough relief fund (and quick liquidation capacity) to trigger actions in case of an eruption.
10. More local response is needed, and volunteers are to be equipped and kept engaged (with active and verified phone number), since once eruption happens the airspace closes down for long and flying in (from outside or even externally) people is not possible.
11. Although the government can provide provisions (like ration for the food truck), they have limited response resources and mobilization capacity. PRC and the authorities can complement each other by pulling in resources.

Current National Society Actions

Activation Of Contingency Plans

PRC has activated the contingency plan to respond to the needs of the affected population. This involves mobilizing trained volunteers, deploying humanitarian caravan composing of Emergency Response Unit, WASH (water and sanitation), Welfare, Health, and National Disaster Response Team (NDRT).

Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

PRC has deployed teams to assist on the mandatory evacuation efforts in multiple municipalities. There was a deployment of humanitarian caravan from NHQ to provide much needed assistance to affected people in the local chapter. These supplies and equipment are crucial for providing clean water, food and medical aid to those who are displaced in evacuation centres. The deployment of humanitarian caravan consists of the following:

- 2 units of traxis multi-purpose van with health supplies and comms materials
- 4 units of water tankers, 5 units of water bladders and tap stands



	- 4 units of relief trucks were loaded with 1,500 sets of hygiene and sleeping kits - 1 unit truck was loaded with 1,695 pcs of jerry cans
Coordination	The chapter is in coordination with communities, municipalities, and local government units for situational and operational updates. At the National level, PRC is coordinating with relevant authorities.
Assessment	The PRC local chapter has deployed an assessment team to the evacuation centres. The assessment team has conducted initial and rapid assessment in the priority areas on 8 and 9 June 2023. This assessment was deemed necessary in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of the initial status or any potential impact that could occur in the area. Data collection was conducted using the existing RDANA tool of PRC, as well as secondary data sources, and key informant interviews. The assessment team is comprised of volunteers and staff from the PRC local chapter who worked together in collecting information on the initial possible action and pressing needs of the community. The PRC NHQ and local chapter in Albay attended the disaster risk assessment meetings within of their respective council levels. This includes identifying hazard and its secondary impact, and activation of response team and equipment's including RC 143 volunteers, inventory and assets checking.
National Society Readiness	PRC mobilized manpower of 50 personnel, including 22 staff, and 28 volunteers who are involved in the operation. There are 19 RC 143 volunteers and 9 community-based volunteers. Volunteers are deployed at the chapter level to provide immediate assistance to people in need.
Community Engagement And Accountability	Community engagement and accountability (CEA) is a cross cutting theme of the PRC and they continue to engage people in the evacuation centres and communities in designing assistance programs for them. PRC further accelerated the process of seeking feedback on assistance provided and plan to undertake post distribution monitoring (PDM) by the end of the operation.
Migration	People within a 6 km radius from Mt Mayon volcano have been pre-emptively evacuated and taken to different evacuation centres. Some families decided to stay with their relatives and friends in surrounding areas. These people are effectively displaced at this point and may need soft humanitarian assistance and support. In case of a magmatic eruption, many of these people will lose their houses and livelihood, and may require long-term assistance to build their lives back. PRC has been continuously working with these people in the evacuation centres, providing them with household items, safe water, health service (including PSS) and providing hot meals to help people cater to their food security and nutritional needs.
Protection, Gender And Inclusion	PRC has established six welfare desks at evacuation centres (Municipality of Guinobatan and Camalig) and seaports to cater stranded individuals.
	PRC deployed multi-purpose van loaded with the following: - 12,000 facemask - 200 safety goggles - 3 sets basic medicines

Health	- 10 infrared thermometer - 3 units of portable amplifier - 250 pcs of dust masks - Nebulizers salbutamol and mask with mouthpiece for adult and children A total of 10 boxes (500 pieces of masks) distributed to people. In addition, PRC has assisted and transported 59 individuals to the evacuation center. Further, health and first aid desks have been established already in the Evacuation Center. To date, 1,513 people have been provided with hygiene promotion.
Livelihoods And Basic Needs	PRC is providing hot meals to people displaced at evacuation centres. To date, there are 750 individuals provided with hot meals in evacuation center in the Municipality of Guinobatan. Additionally, PRC deployed 4 units of truck which contains 2,500 hygiene kits, sleeping kits and jerry cans.
Shelter, Housing And Settlements	PRC deployed 1 unit of truck which contains 1,500 sets sleeping kits (blankets, sleeping mats and mosquito nets).
National Society EOC	PRC (NHQ) is continuously monitoring the situation through the Operation Center (OpCen). All staff and volunteers in priority chapter and the NHQ office are on standby and activated for preparedness for response support. In addition, the Chapter established 24/7 duty operation and conducted pre-disaster meetings.

Movement Partners Actions Related To The Current Event

IFRC	IFRC has been monitoring the Mayon Volcano situation since the alert Level was raised to Level 1. The IFRC is in close coordination with PRC by attending the coordination meetings and support the chapter's preparation. Further, the IFRC activated the coordination mechanism with in-country Participating National Societies (PNS) in keeping them informed and updated on the situation, needs, and planned intermediate response. Additionally, the coordination with the UN System, through regular meetings between the IFRC Country Delegation and OCHA/UNRCO, and sharing of information on the preparations, assessment and response. Regular discussions were also held with the ECHO office on the needs assessment outcomes and PRC-IFRC response plan. The Shelter Cluster Philippines Coordinator is in close coordination with the government shelter cluster lead, Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), the ICCG, UN OCHA and the rest shelter cluster member agencies. IFRC is supporting the operations of the Shelter Cluster Philippines and Shelter Cluster Coordinator.
ICRC	No clear direction on assistance for this operation has been received from ICRC as of to date



Participating National Societies	PRC, ICRC and the six National Societies present in the Philippines (American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, and Spanish Red Cross) are currently working with the IFRC in this operation. The American Red Cross (AmCross), soft pledged USD 50,000 to the PRC bilaterally, by activating their Quick Action Fund (QAF) that will help PRC with WASH, Welfare, Health, Safety, Volunteers Mobilization and general operation cost for this operation. IFRC and AmCross are working in close coordination with each other and supporting PRC jointly. It is evident in joint planning to support PRC response to this crisis. PRC created an overall plan and budget, and allocated separate portions to IFRC and AmCross without any duplication. Due to this, some of the essential activities and items, despite being highlighted in the needs assessment do not feature on IFRC DREF (e.g. Jerry cans, water treatment plant, water bladder, school kits - which are parts of AmCross QAF). IFRC is also closely coordinating with the German Red Cross, who may provide support to PRC upon escalation of situation.
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Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	The Department of Social Welfare and Development is providing tents and necessities in the evacuation centres. There is a standby fund of PHP 5 million. Approximately 83,278 family food packs are available at DSWD warehouses. Additionally, there are 52,829 non-food items prepositioned at various DSWD warehouses and at the Provincial Local Government Units. There are total of 54,000 family food packs already pre-positioned in Albay province, and additional 68,000 FFPs or respiratory masks that will be sent by the DSWD Central office based on the target of 102,000 FFPs for the province where Mt. Mayon is located. The Department of Agriculture is currently updating the seed reserves (inventory) as part of their preparedness and in prepositioning of hauling trucks and outreach stations in the municipalities of Tabaco and Camalig.
UN or other actors	

Are there major coordination mechanisms in place?

As auxiliary to the public authorities, PRC maintains a strong relationship with government bodies through participation or collaboration with (i) the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC); (ii) the provincial, municipal and barangay (village) disaster risk reduction and management councils; and (iii) the local government units defined in the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act from 2010. PRC participates in NDRRMC meetings and coordinates with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and Department of Health.



The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) has activated Republic Act 7581 (Price Act), providing protection to consumers by stabilizing the prices of necessities and prime commodities and by prescribing measures undue price increases during emergency situations.

At the country level, PRC and IFRC consistently participate in meetings of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) held both during disasters and non-emergency times. PRC and IFRC are involved in relevant government-led cluster information sharing, planning, and analysis at all levels while IFRC supports PRC coordination efforts through representation in other relevant clusters as required. IFRC and PRC are very active member of the Cash Working Group of the HCT system, and co-facilitator of the Emergency Shelter cluster.

At the ground level, PRC has been continuously coordinating with the LGU and other relevant departments to ensure complementarity of response activities. For an example, PRC only kept a provision of 3 meals for 3,000 individuals as part of their strategy, nonetheless the food trucks stay deployed in the field and the DSWD and LGU continue to provide ration and supplies for the food truck. In this model, the people get quality services and PRC gets visibility. Also, PRC plans to assist DSWD in distributing food packs to the beneficiaries, which would be beneficial to both agencies.



Anticipated Needs



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The displacement of families from their homes due to volcanic hazards emergencies leads to an immediate and critical need for food assistance. Those who are staying in evacuation centres or are displaced outside these centres require food assistance until they can return to their homes. Depending on the situation, they may require either hot meals or food packs that are easy to transport and store.

The affected people in the evacuation centres need food assistance. In the initial days, they need hot meals or ready-to-eat rations to affected families who are staying in evacuation centers. The vulnerable people and communities affected by emergencies and disasters require food assistance and dignity throughout their stay in the evacuation centres, which can be ensured by providing adequate food packs and cooking facilities.



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Based on the available reports, more than 2,000 families or 10,578 people residing within the 6 km radius of PDZ were urgently evacuated from their homes due to the imminent threat of volcanic activity, including PDCs, lava flows, rockfalls, and other associated volcanic hazards. Schools and covered courts were identified as temporary shelters and LGU provided modular tent to affected families.

Consequently, these displaced individuals have been forced to seek temporary shelter in designated evacuation areas and are expected to remain there for a period of two weeks to one month. Given the current circumstances, it is essential to provide these displaced individuals with necessary and appropriate household items to ensure their basic needs are met during this time of displacement. These essential items include but are not limited to blankets, mosquito nets, and sleeping mats. Additionally, other materials may be required to ensure PGI principles are upheld. This may involve partitioning of areas in the evacuation centres to ensure the safety and security of all individuals, particularly women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

The evacuees are in need of these essential items and appropriate partitioning of areas in evacuation centres, which will provide a safe and secure environment for those affected.



Community Engagement And Accountability

The affected households require support from both government and non-government organization. It is crucial to provide information on the types of support available and how households can access them. This information should be made readily available to ensure that affected households are aware of the support available to them.

Additionally, volcanic activities/eruptions can be unpredictable and prolonged, making it necessary to provide continuous updates and information on the status of the volcano in the evacuation centers. This information must include what needs to be done and what support is available. Continuous updates are essential to ensure that affected households are kept informed of any changes as the situation evolves.



It is also essential to monitor the needs of different groups continuously. Different groups of people may have different needs, and it is important to ensure that the support provided targets these specific needs.

Two-way communication is vital in providing aid during disasters. It is not enough to provide information to affected households; listening to their needs and feedback is equally important. Information is a life-saving mechanism during disasters, and it is imperative to ensure that accurate and up-to-date information is provided to affected households. The joint undertaking emphasizes the importance of two-way communication as an aid, highlighting the need for effective communication in providing support to affected households.



Migration

PRC will support the displaced population either living in the evacuation centres or staying with friends or relatives in nearby places. For the entire stretch of displacement, PRC will continue to complement the government's efforts in providing quality humanitarian assistance to these people and upon de-escalation of alert level, support them in safe return to their respective homes.

In the event of a magmatic or even a phreatic eruption, some or many of these people may partially or fully lose their shelter and livelihood and upon careful assessment of the situation, gaps and needs; PRC will support the most vulnerable section in building back their lives.



Education

The ongoing volcanic activity of Mayon Volcano has forced the suspension of classes in schools located in the 6-7 km PDZ. As the latest report, a total of 39 schools have been identified as evacuation areas for pre-evacuated families who are also affected by the volcanic activity. The situation has raised concerns about the long-term possibility of displacement for the affected families as the volcanic activity of Mayon remains unpredictable.

There is a need to provide temporary learning spaces for affected students to continue their classes. Additionally, PRC will provide school kits or school supplies to support learners. This is covered with other funding mechanism available with other partners.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

According to available reports, there are 2,000 families (10,578 people) evacuated due to the danger of PDCs, lava flows, rockfalls and other volcanic hazard and further expected to increase the number of evacuees in the coming days or week.

Overcrowding is frequently experienced at evacuation centres, compelling families to share spaces, which raises protection concerns linked to shelter, i.e., precarious large makeshift tents with no privacy or gender segregation that may increase risks of violence or abuse. PRC will incorporate the IFRC Minimum standards to PGI in emergency programming throughout the response and sectoral plans to ensure sensitivity to the needs of at-risk individuals and groups.

During times of disasters, affected people face increasing vulnerability due to lack of proper housing, limited access to health care, sub optimal WASH facilities and economic insecurity, often due to loss of immediate livelihood. Vulnerable population, such as children, elderly, people with disabilities or a chronic medical condition, face barriers in accessing assistance and increased risk of violence and abuse. There is a need to protect these people and incorporate their specific needs while planning implementation and ensure Sex, Age and Disability Disaggregated Data (SADDD) is available, to ensure accountability and inclusiveness of the response.

Furthermore, there is a need to provide psychosocial support interventions to the people who lost livelihoods and displaced. In addition, there is a need to support children via child-friendly spaces.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

The provision of safe drinking water is one of the most pressing needs for the displaced individuals currently residing in evacuation centres. To address this need, it is crucial to distribute water and jerry cans to ensure safe storage and distribution of the water. In addition to the distribution of water, there is a need to carry out sensitization campaigns on water treatment, handling, and storage to ensure that the water remains potable and safe for consumption. The sensitization campaign aims to educate the affected individuals on the proper handling and storage of water, particularly in cases where access to clean water is limited.

Furthermore, families currently residing in the evacuation areas are sharing common toilets, which poses a significant hygiene risk. To address this issue, it is necessary to provide basic hygiene kits and promote hygiene practices to improve hygiene behavior. The hygiene kits should include items such as soap, shampoo, and toothbrushes, among others. Additionally, hygiene promotion activities such as hand-washing campaigns can help mitigate the risk of preventable diseases and improve the overall health and wellbeing of the affected individuals.

It was learned from the previous operations that evacuations centres often get overwhelmed when it comes to sanitation facilities, thus additional mobile toilets must be provided. This may reduce the risk of open defecation and thus, diarrheal diseases and local water source contamination.

The provision of safe drinking water and proper sanitation facilities is crucial to mitigate the risk of preventable diseases and improve the health and wellbeing of the displaced people. The safety and wellbeing of affected people can be ensured by distributing water and jerry cans, carrying out sensitization campaigns on water treatment and storage, providing basic hygiene kits, and promoting hygiene practices.



Health

Based on the available reports, it has become apparent that the recent evacuation of more than 2,000 families or 10,578 people residing within the 6 km radius of PDZ has had a significant impact on their psychosocial well-being. Therefore, there is an urgent need for these displaced individuals to access psychosocial support services (PSS) to address their mental health needs during this stressful period.

The volcanic ash resulting from the volcanic activity poses a significant health risk to those affected. Acid rain will likely occur if Mayon Volcano emits sulfur dioxide in large quantities. Ashfall and volcanic smog will also likely occur and extended exposure and inhalation can cause breathing difficulties. Thus, it is essential to provide affected people with basic first aid services, stabilization support, and personal protective equipment to mitigate



the impact of the volcanic ash.

Additionally, there could be a potential risk of Silicosis, particularly among those with existing lung or skin diseases resulting from contact with volcanic ash, particularly small children. Therefore, it is necessary to provide appropriate medication to manage this risk.

There is a high risk of the spread of vector-borne diseases, such as dengue, within the evacuation centres, and the risk of other acute respiratory infections. It is crucial to monitor these diseases within the evacuation centres to prevent their spread and ensure the health and safety of the displaced people.

Further, it is essential to provide support services that address the psychosocial well-being of the affected people, provide basic first aid and personal protective equipment, and monitor the spread of diseases within the evacuation centres.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

This operation will support the immediate needs of 7,500 most vulnerable people (1,500 families) in 7 municipalities of Albay, who are at risk of Mount Mayon volcanic eruption and presently living in evacuation centres, between 8 June and 8 September 2023.

The targeted people will be assisted through essential household items, hot meals, health services, WASH, education in emergency and Red Cross volunteers and youth mobilization. CEA and PGI continue to provide guidance to the operation as cross cutting areas to all the interventions.

Operation strategy rationale

PRC recommends and will focus initially in 7 municipalities that are identified as most vulnerable areas of volcanic activity. These are municipalities of Daraga, Camalig, Guinobatan, Tabaco, Malipot, Ligao and Legazpi. The areas falling under the municipality of Bacacay has been excluded from PRC areas of support, since the LGU I Albay, asked PRC not to intervene in that area, considering it is a newly developed area and the LGU has a plan to support people of Bacacay in need.

Under this DREF assistance, PRC will prioritize the provision of immediate assistance of household items to the people staying in the evacuation centres. This will include two pieces of blankets, sleeping mats and mosquito nets. Furthermore, for those living in the evacuation centres with no access to cooking equipment, PRC will respond with the provision of hot meals through food trucks. Other assistance will be one hygiene kit for each affected households, supported by PRC.

PRC will mobilize pre-positioned stocks from its warehouse and replenish the items from the imminent DREF funds. IFRC Logistics unit will conduct the procurement process. Blankets and sleeping mats will be procured locally and hygiene kits, jerry cans and mosquito nets will be procured internationally through IFRC Global Humanitarian Services - Supply Chain Management, Asia Pacific (GHS&SCM-AP) unit based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

To address people's basic needs, PRC will provide hot meals to selected evacuations centres. PRC will provide meals to 3,000 people for 3 days (once per day), which will be charged to this DREF operation. Later, PRC will continue provide hot meals assistance to the same group of people, with provision and supplies from government and other



agencies. The mobilization cost of food trucks will be charged to this DREF, nonetheless PRC will reach out to this 3,000 people with hot meals for as many days as they need the assistance. The number of people in need of hot meals assistance will reduce over time, as people receive food packs from DSWD and LGU and start cooking their own meals.

It is important to mention that IFRC in close consultation with PRC, will escalate the situation further, if there is any phreatic or magmatic eruption at Mt. Mayon volcano and the government authorities escalate the situation by raising the alert level. In the event of rapid escalation of alert level to 4 (or in worst case scenario alert level 5), PRC may decide to go for a DREF or even an emergency appeal, depending on geographic areas impacted, intensity of impact, number of families (people) affected, houses destroyed/ damaged, complete/ partial loss of livelihood and income sources of affected population, impact on the WASH and health infrastructure, impact on the schools (and thus children's education) and the chapter's capacity to respond to the scale of such a disaster.

PRC and all the of its partners, coordinated by IFRC will continue to assess the situation and escalate/ de-escalate the activities, as necessary and in consultation with PRC and IFRC DREF management team. The escalation and/ or, de-escalation or alert level, and linked humanitarian activities will be solely driven by scientific evidence, context (gaps, public authorities' systemic resilience, other partners', and stakeholders' contribution in catering to people's need etc.) and PRC's response capacity.

If the situation de-escalates rapidly and the people in the evacuation camps are allowed to go back to their houses, the entire DREF allocation may not be utilized. Cost incurred for mobilizing and distributing the essential household items (blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets and hygiene kits) and some initial expenditure done for Health (including first air and provision MPPSS), PPE, WASH, initial mobilization of volunteers and staff and assessment, will be accounted for. Alas, depending on the timing of de-escalation, some DREF money may be saved, which will be returned to the DREF pot.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The overall target number of evacuation centres and population is based on discussions with the government authorities. The government will lead in coordinating response to the evacuees and PRC will be allocated evacuation centres and with an estimated total population of about 1,500 families (about 7,500 people). The final numbers are subject to the actual allocation of evacuation centres and numbers of families to be supported.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The selection criteria are based on the damage, needs and vulnerability of the affected community. In its responses, PRC ensures that programmes are aligned with its own, as well as IFRC's commitment to take into account gender and diversity, for example by targeting women-headed households, pregnant or lactating women, and men and boys made vulnerable by disasters; households with people with disabilities, elderly people, those suffering from chronic illnesses, children-headed households, families with children under five years old, families that have not received any or sufficient assistance from the government or other organizations, those belonging to the socially vulnerable households and those who lack relevant resources to cope with the basic humanitarian needs on their own. These groups will be considered according to the level of impact.

Once beneficiaries are identified, each will be given a PRC beneficiary card with their and household members' names. The card will form the basis for recognition of bearers as beneficiaries of the PRC and during implementation PRC volunteers will countercheck if the names on the card are listed in distribution sheets. Upon receipt of any item or assistance, beneficiaries will sign award sheets or participating lists. With these records, cases of double-assistance or double-counting will be eliminated.



Total Targeted Population

Women:	2,117	Rural %	Urban %
Girls (under 18):	1,596	100 %	%
Men:	2,100	People with disabilities (estimated %)	
Boys (under 18):	1,689	%	
Total targeted population:	7,500		

Risk and security considerations

Please indicate about potential operational risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
Threat of potential new tropical cyclones developing or entering the Philippine Area of Responsibility and influencing the country due to the ongoing typhoon season that could trigger landslide and worsen the situation	The PRC - Operation Center will continue to monitor the current weather situation and provide necessary alerts as and when required.
Safety of personnel due COVID-19 when implementing the interventions	Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) will be provided for personnel involved in the operations. Advisory information will be circulated in terms of precautionary measures to be taken to protect health and safety, and early warning and early action systems (in accordance with the authorities' own contingency plans)
Safety of staff and volunteer's due to toxic conditions and potentially violent eruption.	Volunteers and staff will be briefed on the risks and where necessary PPE provided. There will be regular health monitoring of volunteers and staff. PRC will support an early warning early action system and identify safe evacuation routes – in line with the government contingency plans.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

There is low security risk posed by armed groups in the province of Albay. The National Society's security framework will apply throughout the duration of the operation to their staff and volunteers. In case of need for deployment for personnel under IFRC security's responsibility, including surge support, the existing IFRC country security framework will apply.



Planned Intervention

	Shelter Housing And Settlements	Budget	CHF 46,814
		Targeted Persons	7500
Indicators		Target	
# of households provided with essential household items		1500	
# of assessment conducted (rapid and detailed)		2	
# of volunteers and staff engaged in PDM		10	
Priority Actions:		1. Deployment of PRC staff and volunteers for field assessment (rapid and detail). 2. Distribution of essential household items to 1,500 most affected families (2 blankets, 2 sleeping mats, 2 mosquito nets and 1 hygiene pack). 3. Conduct PDM in the evacuation centres to assess the utilization of distributed items.	

	Livelihoods And Basic Needs	Budget	CHF 21,966
		Targeted Persons	3000
Indicators		Target	
# of people provided with food assistance (ready-to-eat food/hot meals)		3000	
Priority Actions:		1. Deployment of food trucks at evacuation centres to serve 9,000 hot meals for 3,000 evacuees (3 meals per person).	

	Health	Budget	CHF 17,694
		Targeted Persons	7500
Indicators		Target	
# of people provided with PPEs		5000	
		1500	

# of affected families provided with insecticide- treated mosquito nets	
# of people provided with direct psychosocial support	1000
Priority Actions:	1. Mobilize ambulances to transport patients / injured people to nearby hospitals. 2. Provision of first aid based on the need. 3. Deployment of health Caravan/health mission to affected areas to provide basic health services, in coordination with local health units. 4. Distribution of mosquito nets to 1,500 families.

	Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	Budget	CHF 31,062
		Targeted Persons	7500
Indicators	Target		
# of households provided with hygiene kits	1500		
# of mobile toilets/latrines placed in the evacuation centres	4		
Priority Actions:		1. Deployment of PRC water tankers and water treatment units for to distribute safe drinking water. 2. Provision of hygiene promotion combined with water distribu- tion targeting at least 10 communities every day, for a period of up to 30 days reaching 100 families per community (1,000 families / 5,000 people). 3. Provide 1,500 most vulnerable families with hygiene kit (one each). 4. Establish and maintain at least four portable/mobile toilets in selected evacuation centres. 5. Distribute IEC materials. 6. Provide required WASH trainings for RC 143 volunteers, based on the need.	

	Protection, Gender And Inclusion	Budget	CHF 5,103
		Targeted Persons	7500
Indicators		Target	
# of child-friendly spaces established		5	
		80	

# of staff and volunteers provided with PGI orientation	
Priority Actions:	1. Provision of Psychosocial support interventions. 2. Establish Child-friendly Space in evacuation centers. 3. Provide orientation to all staff and volunteers on minimum PGI standards in emergencies and areas to look for in camps, to ensure protection and safeguarding of children (especially girls) and women.

	Community Engagement And Accountability	Budget	CHF 0
		Targeted Persons	7500
Indicators		Target	
% of complaints and feedbacks received, responded to by NS		90	
Priority Actions:		1. Include CEA sessions into trainings (WASH, PSS, etc.). 2. Set up feedback desks as part of distributions to document and answer feedback. 3. Include feedback section into PDM and other data collection, link to activities such as hygiene promotion. 4. Share regular and timely updates on the operation with communities in their preferred channels and formats (for example, utilizing local radio stations, including formats for persons with disabilities where relevant, such as sign language video content etc.)	

	Secretariat Services	Budget	CHF 2,983
		Targeted Persons	
Indicators		Target	
# of communications materials produced		6	
% of financial reporting compliance to IFRC procedures		100	
Priority Actions:		1. Produce and share Communication materials. 2. Ensure movement coordination is place. 3. Provide finance support and ensure IFRC procedures are fulfilled. 4. Conduct regular field monitoring to provide technical support and monitor the ongoing activities	

	National Society Strengthening	Budget	CHF 14,741
		Targeted Persons	100
Indicators		Target	
% of volunteers insured		100	
% of financial reporting respecting IFRC procedures		100	
# of lessons learned workshop conducted		1	
Priority Actions:		1. Provision of insurance for volunteers involved in the operation. 2. Provision of technical support to PRC as and when required. 3. Conduct a lesson learned workshop by the end of the operation. 4. RC 143 volunteer recruitment and training in Albay chapter and 7 municipalities.	

About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

PRC has a manpower of 100 volunteers, including 50 staff who are involved in the operation. Volunteers are deployed at the chapter level to provide immediate assistance to people. Based on their skill and knowledge, they are assigned on specific tasks such as first aid trained volunteers, PSS trained volunteers, cash trained volunteers.

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

Replenishment of the Hygiene kits, mosquito nets, blankets and sleeping mats will lead to procurement. This will be undertaken by the IFRC Philippines Country Delegation, with support from the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) logistics department for procuring hygiene kits and mosquito nets. Blankets and sleeping mats will be procured locally, in the Philippines. The procurement will ensure compliance to IFRC Policies and Procedures.

How will this operation be monitored?

PDM will be undertaken for all items distributed and services renders to ensure utilization of the items and quality of the services. This is an evolving situation which could either escalate into a response or de-escalate in the event the volcanic activity quells down and the government lifts alerts. PRC NHQ and chapters will continue to collect data and analyze situation, in close collaboration with relevant govt. departments and IFRC to analyze data and escalate/de-escalate the situation as needed.

Reporting on the operation will be carried out as per the IFRC reporting standards. Regular updates will be issued during the operation's timeframe, with a final report issued within three months after the end of the operation. The operation team will have technical PMER capacity, and additional technical support is provided through the IFRC APRO PMER team. The operation monitoring teams will conduct field visits as needed, and this will help identify and resolve any issues where possible and necessary. Necessary tools and templates for regular data collection and reporting will be adopted from existing PMER resources. A lesson learned workshop will be conducted at the end of the DREF operation to capture recommendations for PRC to consider and/or incorporate in future emergency operations.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation.

IFRC will be supporting PRC communications capacity through the communications teams in the country delegation in Manila and the regional office in Kuala Lumpur. More precisely, IFRC will provide assistance in media relations and content gathering, producing and distributing communication material and resources, as well as using social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter) to promote advocacy messages through the global and regional platforms. Furthermore, IFRC will support in managing reputational risk at the country level and will ensure that the Movement actors at the country level speak and act with a unified voice to build trust towards partners, donors and other stakeholders.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRPH051 - Philippines Mount Mayon Volcanic Eruption

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	122,639
Shelter and Basic Household Items	46,814
Livelihoods	21,966
Multi-purpose Cash	0
Health	17,694
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	31,062
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	5,103
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	0
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	17,723
Coordination and Partnerships	355
Secretariat Services	2,627
National Society Strengthening	14,741
TOTAL BUDGET	140,363

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



Contact Information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[Click here for the reference](#)

