

Philippines, Asia-Pacific | Cebu Earthquake



Volunteers and staff provide first aid, clean water, food, psychosocial support, and deployed rescue vehicles, generators, and blood units. (Photo Credit: Philippine Red Cross)

Appeal No: MDRPH057	To be assisted: 72,940 people	Appeal launched: 04/10/2025
Glide No: EQ-2025-000181-PHL	DREF allocated CHF 999,819	Disaster Categorisation: Orange
Operation start date: 30/09/2025	Operation end date: 31/10/2027	

IFRC Secretariat Funding requirement: CHF 5.5 million
Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 8 million¹

¹ The Federation-wide funding requirement encompasses all financial support to be directed to the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) in response to the emergency. It includes the PRC's domestic fundraising requests and the fundraising appeals of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (CHF 2.5 million), as well as the funding ask of the IFRC secretariat (CHF 5.5 million). This comprehensive approach ensures that all available resources are mobilised to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the affected communities.

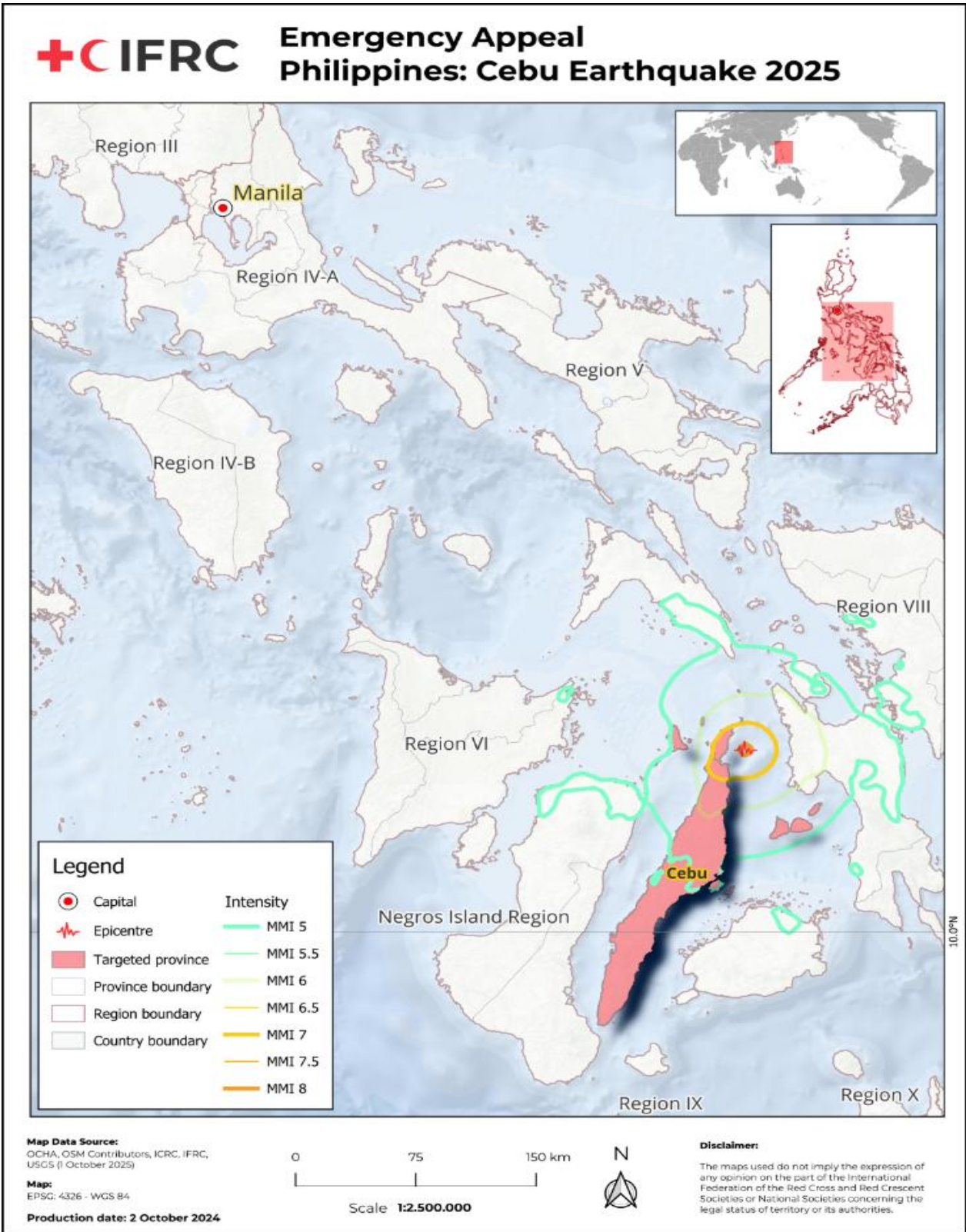


Family tents are set up to provide temporary shelter assistance for families displaced by the earthquake. (Photo: Philippine Red Cross)

TIMELINE

- 30 September 2025 at 9:59 PM:** A magnitude 6.9 tectonic earthquake jolted the coast of Bogu City, Cebu. The epicentre was located at 11.10°N, 124.14°E – approximately 19 km northeast of the City of Bogu, Cebu, with a 5 km depth of focus.
- 1 October 2025:** At 1:20 AM, the tsunami advisory issued after the 6.9-magnitude earthquake occurred was lifted. On the same day, the province of Cebu was placed under a state of calamity following the damages caused by the event.
- 4 October 2025:** An Emergency Appeal (EA) with a Federation-wide funding ask of CHF 8 million was launched for a 24-month timeframe.
- 7 October 2025:** A week after the impact, a total of 7,027 aftershocks had been recorded, with magnitudes ranging from 1.0 to 5.1. Concurrently, the eligibility and compliance for the DREF application with a release of 25 per cent (CHF 249,788) of the total DREF request was approved.
- 9 October 2025:** The DREF application request was fully approved following the successful completion of the operational quality check. An additional allocation of CHF 750,031 has been granted, resulting in a total DREF allocation CHF 999,819 for this operation.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT



Reference map of the epicentre of the 6.9-magnitude earthquake in Cebu. (Source: IFRC)

Severity of the Humanitarian Conditions

A powerful magnitude 6.9 earthquake struck off the coast of Bogó City, Cebu at 9:59 PM on 30 September 2025, making it one of the strongest recorded earthquakes in Cebu to date. The epicentre was located near Bogó City in northern Cebu, where intense ground shaking led to the collapse of buildings, destruction of roads, and power outages. Neighbouring municipalities, including Daanbantayan, Medellín, San Remigio, and even parts of Cebu City also felt the severe impact of the earthquake.

The earthquake was tectonic in origin and occurred at a shallow depth of about five kilometres, which contributed to the strength of the shaking felt across a wide area. The quake's effects were not limited to Cebu alone – it was felt across the Visayas region, parts of Luzon, and Mindanao, causing widespread panic and damage. The event's aftermath affected two regions, Central Visayas (Region VII) and Eastern Visayas (Region VIII), with Northern Cebu in Region VII sustaining the greatest impact and damage.

According to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology ([PHIVOLCS](#)), the quake was caused by an [offshore fault in the epicentre](#) area that had remained dormant for over 400 years. Within the first 48 hours after the earthquake, PHIVOLCS recorded over 2,400 aftershocks, the strongest measuring a 4.9-magnitude. Following the earthquake, DOST-PHIVOLCS issued a tsunami advisory warning of possible minor sea-level disturbances in coastal areas, which was lifted once conditions subsided.

As of 7 October 2025, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council has recorded a [total of 155,094 families or 547,394 individuals](#) affected by the earthquake in 16 cities and municipalities of Cebu province, which consists of 205 barangays. The disaster has resulted in at least 70 confirmed fatalities and 559 injuries, with the death toll expected to rise as rescue operations continue. The number of people displaced has risen to 26,638, most of whom are staying outside evacuation centres due to safety concerns about returning home and a lack of access to shelter, clean water, or medical care. These are not just statistics – they represent families, communities, and disrupted futures.

A total of 35,925 houses were reportedly affected, including 3,802 that were completely destroyed and 32,123 partially damaged. The earthquake also caused significant damage to 533 infrastructures, including government facilities, schools, cultural heritage sites, and commercial establishments. Following the quake, a fire was also reported inside a mall in Consolacion town, northern Cebu.

Several bridges across Cebu province were damaged, and deep cracks appeared in asphalt and concrete roads in several locations, especially in the northern municipalities of Medellín, Daanbantayan, and San Remigio. These conditions are slowing the delivery of aid, transport of injured people, and movement of emergency personnel, creating an urgent need for road-clearing equipment and fuel. Currently, 91 cities and municipalities are still experiencing power supply interruptions while three municipalities are still experiencing communication line outages. Additionally, classes have been suspended in 115 cities and municipalities, while government work has been halted in 14 cities and municipalities across Region 7.

The province of Cebu has declared a state of calamity, enabling the rapid mobilisation of resources and emergency response. However, the challenges remain immense, with power outages, communication breakdowns, and impassable roads continuing to hinder relief efforts.

The Philippine Red Cross mobilised its primary data collection through the Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment (RDANA), focusing on the unmet needs of the most vulnerable people in hard-to-reach areas. RDANA assessment teams, comprised of IFRC and PRC volunteers and local staff, were deployed to affected municipalities in Cebu province, including Bogó City, San Remigio, and Daanbantayan.

CAPACITIES AND RESPONSE

1. National Society response capacity

1.1 National Society capacity and on-going response

Republic Act No. 10072 of the Philippines recognises the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) as an auxiliary to the public authorities in responding to disaster situations and is the nation's largest humanitarian organisation. The PRC, which works through 101 chapters covering all administrative districts and major cities in the country, has over

1,600 staff at national headquarters and chapter levels, and approximately one million volunteers and supporters, including approximately 540,000 active volunteers.

At the chapter level, the Red Cross 143 programme ensures a strong presence of trained and equipped volunteers on standby at the community (barangay) level, enhancing the overall capacity of the National Society to prepare for and respond to emergencies. The PRC's core programmes and services include blood services, disaster management and relief, dissemination of international humanitarian law, health and safety services, social services, volunteer mobilisation, and youth engagement.

The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) has been consistently using cash and voucher assistance (CVA) in response to emergencies. The cash transfer modalities are multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA), unconditional, conditional, and restricted cash transfers, voucher assistance and community grants delivered via paper vouchers, financial service providers, banks, or cash in envelopes. The PRC has over 70 National Disaster Response Teams (NDRTs) dedicated to Cash and Voucher Assistance Programming and maintains active agreements with Red Rose for data collection and management, and PhilPost as a financial service provider.

In the current response, the PRC is actively supporting response efforts in the affected areas and continuously delivering vital humanitarian aid to vulnerable populations. Volunteers have intensified their reach and been deployed on the ground to provide life-saving support, including temporary shelter assistance, medical tents, hot meals, sleeping kits, blood and health services, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions. Welfare desks are also being managed to support the emotional recovery of affected individuals by providing mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services, including child-friendly activities. The Philippine Red Cross, in response, has mobilised quickly, launching an Emergency Appeal, dispatching medical teams, food, clean water, rescue vehicles, generators, and mental health and psychosocial support to affected areas such as Bogo, Cebu.

PHILIPPINE RED CROSS SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN - 2 WEEKS AFTER IMPACT



1.2 Capacity and response at the national level

In response to the recent earthquake in Cebu, the national government has taken swift and coordinated action to ensure the safety and welfare of affected communities. Authorities are actively monitoring the situation and issuing timely public advisories to guide emergency efforts. Government agencies, local officials, and volunteers have mobilised to provide critical support to those in crisis. Rescue operations are ongoing, led by local government units and the Philippine Air Force (PAF) through the Tactical Operations Wing Central, which has conducted rapid assessments and airlifted rescue and medical teams, equipment, and relief goods to the hardest-hit areas. Air assets have also been deployed to transport additional personnel from the 505th Search and Rescue Group and the Philippine Army's Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response (HADR) team. The Department of Transportation (DOTr), in partnership with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), has dispatched the BRP Teresa Magbanua, carrying doctors, nurses, medics, and emergency supplies to reinforce disaster response efforts. Eight K9 teams are actively participating in search and rescue operations.

To address water shortages in northern Cebu caused by damaged pipelines, the PCG is preparing to deploy water desalination systems to hospitals and evacuation centres. Cebu province has declared a state of calamity to expedite resource mobilisation, deliver immediate aid, and implement recovery measures. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has prepared over 300,000 food packs, with approximately PHP 160 million (CHF 2.1 million) from the Quick Response Fund available at its Central and Field Office VII. Additionally, around PHP 185.17 million (CHF 2.5 million) worth of essential household items are stocked in DSWD warehouses for distribution. Local government units (LGUs) have been urged to activate contingency and public service continuity plans, conduct resource inventories, preposition emergency supplies, and coordinate with neighbouring LGUs, national agencies, and private sector partners to strengthen humanitarian support.

2. International capacity and response

2.1 Red Cross Red Crescent Movement capacity and response

The PRC is working closely with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). The IFRC Philippine Delegation is supporting the PRC in disseminating updates to the IFRC network in-country. The IFRC is continuously supporting the PRC through internal coordination meetings between the APRO and the Philippine Country Delegation (Regional Task Force), as well as regular information sharing with IFRC network partners. Flash updates and field reports were published on the IFRC GO platform and circulated, and technical support has been provided for the development of the DREF/Emergency Appeal.

A Partners' Call was organised on 3 October to share updates and explore possibilities for partner support in the operation. Several partners have indicated their willingness to contribute, while funding confirmations are still in process.

As of 4 October, the IFRC launched an Emergency Appeal requesting CHF 8,000,000 in Federation-wide funding over a 24-month period to support the PRC in responding to the earthquake, which provides an integrated approach to the ongoing emergency response, recovery, and longer-term programming tailored to the country's needs.

The IFRC maintains daily contact with partners to provide regular updates on ongoing operations. Currently, five PNSs are active in the Philippines (Spanish Red Cross, German Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, American Red Cross, and Canadian Red Cross), with three of them focusing specifically on disaster risk reduction and disaster risk financing. The American Red Cross has released funds from its Quick Action Fund to support the PRC's operations, while the Singapore Red Cross has pledged SGD 50,000 (approximately CHF 30,000) to support urgent medical needs, WASH interventions, as well as MHPSS provided by the PRC.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is present in the Philippines, with headquarters in Manila, an operational base, and a warehouse in Mindanao Island. The IFRC Country Delegation coordinates closely with the ICRC on programmes and operations across the country.

2.2 International Humanitarian Stakeholder capacity and response

Following the devastating magnitude 6.9 earthquake that struck Bogo City, Cebu on 30 September 2025, the United Nations along with International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGO) present in the country swiftly mobilised support in coordination with Philippine authorities. While there has not been a formal request from the government for international assistance, international humanitarian partners are supporting and coordinating with their government counterparts through bilateral arrangements.

The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) led by UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) coordinates the overall humanitarian response in the Philippines. Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) meetings have been convened to coordinate and align assistance provided by partners and to discuss situation developments, along with identified needs and gaps in the response. Several partners have deployed their stockpiled assets and human resources to conduct assessments and to roll out immediate response activities. Among the clusters and partners which have been active and critical in the response to date include:

Health Support: The World Health Organization (WHO) deployed its Philippines Country Office to assist overwhelmed hospitals in northern Cebu. The WHO emphasised the urgent need for medical support as local health services struggled to cope with the influx of injured individuals. Medecines Sans Frontieres (MSF), UNFPA and UNICEF are similarly supporting health capacities in the area through deployment of prepositioned stocks and technical support.

Shelter and Displacement Aid: Over 20,000 people were displaced, many sheltering in open spaces due to ongoing aftershocks. The Shelter Cluster is preparing to conduct rapid structural assessments and shelter assessment training with technical partners and anticipates needs for emergency repair and reconstruction. The UN International Organization for Migration (IOM) along with other Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) partners, has been deployed to assist these families with temporary shelter and essential services.

Water and Hygiene Assistance: Humanitarian partners began the distributions of hygiene kits and water filtration units to address the urgent need for clean water and sanitation. The cluster has reported gaps in existing capacity as resources are thinly stretched across multiple response operations. The humanitarian partners are working on mapping existing resources to avoid duplication of assistance.

Nutrition: The Cluster is coordinating closely with Department of Health (DOH) and filling gaps in local government capacity for assessing nutritional needs. WFP is assisting in the transportation and provision of food assistance in the affected areas.

Protection and Gender-based Violence (GBV): The Cluster partners are active on the ground but reporting significant gaps and needs in the urgent provision of safe water, shelter, medicines and protection services to the displaced population. DOH has requested the GBV cluster to deploy additional dignity kits, solar radios, maternity pack and reproductive health kits.

Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications: Logistics remains a challenge for most partners with two seaports rendered non-operational along with blocked roads hindering aid delivery. Emergency Telecommunication Cluster is monitoring connectivity in Northern Cebu. The Logistics Cluster is on standby to provide additional logistics following the deliveries of assistance.

3. Gaps in the response

Following the 6.9 magnitude earthquake that struck Cebu on 30 September 2025, affected communities are grappling with a multitude of challenges across a range of sectors, creating a complex and interwoven recovery landscape. The recent Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment (RDNA) conducted by the Philippine Red Cross has highlighted the severe impacts of the disaster – particularly in relief distribution, housing, livelihoods, health, WASH, education, and protection services.

The operation faces significant gaps in shelter, livelihoods, health, WASH, protection, education, community engagement, and logistics. Addressing these gaps will require coordinated efforts, additional resources, and a strong focus on both immediate relief and longer-term recovery. Consistent and longer-term recovery support will be needed to address losses incurred in terms of income and livelihoods, and sustainable shelter solutions to the displaced population. While several humanitarian partners with a presence in the Philippines have been active in the immediate response, gaps remain to address the early and recovery needs of the communities. Partners have capacity and funds to cater to the immediate needs in the first few months following the earthquake, but donor and response fatigue can be expected beyond the emergency phase.

Shelter, Housing, and Settlements

The toll of the destruction and human suffering has become painfully clear in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake. By the time [NDRRMC SitRep No. 8](#) was issued, 365 families were still sheltering in evacuation centres, while over 15,092 families had taken refuge with relatives – many choosing not to return home at night due to ongoing tremors. PHIVOLCS has since recorded thousands of aftershocks, compounding fear and preventing a safe, early return.

Meanwhile, the NDRRMC updated its casualty figures to [72 deaths and 559 injured](#), with 155,094 affected families (approximately 547,394 individuals), and 35,925 damaged houses, of which 3,802 were fully destroyed and 32,123 partially damaged.

Though direct structural damage was modest in comparison to the scale of displacement, the disruption is profound. Many homes remain unsafe or in a state of damage limbo, leaving residents too fearful to stay inside. The rainy season adds urgency – soggy floors, leaking roofs, cold nights, and damp air turn makeshift shelters into health hazards.

Beyond the loss of shelter, displaced families have also been stripped of their basic needs, including bedding, cooking utensils, and hygiene supplies. While these may not be considered everyday items in normal circumstances, in times of crisis, they serve as a lifeline for maintaining dignity and a sense of normalcy. Without them, displaced families become more vulnerable and face greater obstacles in rebuilding their lives.

To meet these overlapping crises, urgent support must focus on delivering temporary shelter assistance, emergency shelter tool kits, and essential household items to displaced families. Organised tent cities and proper camp management are needed to support the most vulnerable in the areas of Bogu and Medellin, alongside strengthened water and WASH services, and integrated medical and psychosocial care within these temporary settlements, in line with Sphere and other relevant humanitarian standards. At the same time, the PRC may recommend transitional and full shelter assistance for fully damaged homes, depending on the results of structural assessments. The identification of safe housing must be accelerated so that residents can begin returning without fear during aftershocks. These recommendations by the PRC target municipalities such as Bogu, San Remigio, and Madelin in Cebu.

Following the recent earthquake in Cebu, shelter response efforts have been coordinated at national, regional, and local levels. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has taken the lead in providing family food packs, tents, mobile kitchens, and psychosocial support. The Office of Civil Defense (OCD), Department of Health (DOH), and other national agencies including the Philippine National Police (PNP), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), and Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), have supported logistics, health response, search and rescue, and peace and order. At the regional level, the Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (RDRRMC) in Region 7 facilitates coordination among national agencies and the provincial government. The Province of Cebu manages resource deployment and data collection, while municipalities and cities – particularly in northern Cebu – are responsible for setting up evacuation centres, assisting host families, and distributing aid locally.

Local government units (LGUs), especially barangay officials, are essential in managing evacuation sites, conducting needs assessments, and coordinating with displaced families. Evacuees are being sheltered in a variety of settings: some in formal evacuation centres, such as schools and gyms, others in tents or with host families. The Philippine Red Cross and local NGOs are also providing temporary shelters and distributing relief items. Over 80,000 families have been affected, with the majority staying outside evacuation centres, many housed by relatives or friends. Challenges remain, including continued aftershocks, damaged infrastructure, and overcrowding in shelters, nevertheless, coordinated efforts from all levels of government and civil society continue to ensure safe, dignified, and effective shelter responses.

Livelihoods

Based on PRC RDANA reports, field observations strongly suggest that the earthquake has caused serious damage to people's livelihoods and economic well-being in northern Cebu. Many small retailers, informal traders, service providers, and agricultural households are facing disruptions due to damaged stalls, inaccessible markets, broken supply chains, and the loss of customers as people are displaced or avoid unsafe areas. The tourism sector, already fragile, has also been affected, with hotels, restaurants, and heritage and cultural sites suffering structural damage, resulting in reduced demand and operations.

Infrastructure damage, power outages, intermittent water supply, and blocked roads further hinder business recovery and access to farms. At the same time, many affected households are incurring extra costs just to meet their basic needs, spending on food, water, fuel, temporary shelter, and hygiene items despite disrupted or lost income.

Gaps in livelihood support are pressing, and there is no consolidated assessment yet quantifying income loss, destroyed productive assets, or the number of businesses affected. Many households lack the capital to restart or repair their ventures; farmers may lack essential supplies (seeds, tools, etc.) or access to markets; and informal workers often have inadequate social safety nets.

To fill these gaps, a detailed livelihood impact assessment is urgently needed to identify losses, determine support requirements, and guide targeted interventions. Potential support measures include household livelihood assistance, microgrants or loans, replacement inputs and tools, market rehabilitation, and alternative income support. A significant gap has been identified in support for small traders, retailers, and street vendors whose livelihoods have been disrupted. These individuals often operate in the informal sector and lack access to formal credit or financial assistance to restart their income-generating activities. While many still have access to their tools and equipment, they face challenges in restocking goods or acquiring production materials. There is no immediate need for training, but financial support is critical to help them resume operations.

Based on local insights, daily working capital for street vendors in Cebu, closely linked to tourism activity, can be as low as PHP 500 (CHF 6.9) per day, sufficient to purchase raw materials to start informal, small, and micro-scale income-generating activities.

While the earthquake may not have directly affected their shelters, it has severely disrupted their sources of income, impacting overall livelihoods. This highlights the feasibility and relevance of cash-based assistance, which can support different types of income-generating activities and help prevent those affected from adopting negative coping mechanisms. To determine appropriate transfer values and ensure relevance, surveys and focus group discussions (FGDs) should be conducted. Addressing this gap through unconditional cash transfers will enable vulnerable small traders to recover their livelihoods and restore self-reliance during the early recovery phase.

The government has mobilised large-scale food assistance, with DSWD distributing family food packs (FFPs) and hygiene kits to the most affected municipalities, complemented by significant in-kind donations coordinated by Cebu Province. While these efforts are ongoing, gaps in immediate food access and appropriateness remained, especially in the early days following the earthquake. The PRC complements government support by providing hot meals for up to 14 days, targeting the most vulnerable populations, such as those in evacuation centres, families without access to cooking facilities, and individuals unable to prepare food due to displacement or loss of resources. Hot meals are ready-to-eat and do not require cooking, water, or fuel, making them essential in the immediate aftermath of a disaster when conditions are unstable. This time-bound intervention ensures that urgent nutritional needs are met while people wait for longer-term support mechanisms to stabilise. The PRC's role is therefore not duplicative but supportive, filling critical short-term gaps and ensuring that no vulnerable group is left without access to safe and appropriate food assistance during the transition from 'emergency to recovery'.

While food needs are largely being addressed, gaps remain in essential household items, particularly sleeping kits and temporary shelter materials. Many displaced families continue to avoid staying in their homes due to ongoing aftershocks, and the rainy season exacerbates the situation, increasing health risks from exposure to cold and damp conditions. Immediate support through household livelihood assistance and multipurpose cash grants is recommended as a complementary modality, subject to further assessment and validation within three weeks to determine ongoing needs.

Multipurpose Cash Grants

Communities affected by the recent earthquake have experienced widespread damage to homes, loss of livelihoods, and limited access to essential services. Many families, particularly those in underserved and remote areas, continue to face unmet needs related to food, shelter repair, livelihood recovery, and basic household items. Multi-purpose cash grants (MPCG) are needed to provide flexible support that allows affected families to prioritise and address their most urgent needs. Cash assistance will not only uphold dignity and choice but also support the transition from immediate relief to early recovery. Aligning the MPCG amount with 50 per cent of the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) ensures coherence with national standards, particularly the emergency cash transfer provided by the DSWD, as agreed upon by the Cash Working Group.

Providing MPCG to affected people will ease some of their immediate worries and allow them to focus more on the next critical steps in their family's recovery.

Health

In the wake of the magnitude 6.9 earthquake, health systems across northern Cebu are under immense pressure. Hospitals such as the Cebu Provincial Hospital in Bogó are overwhelmed, with many patients remaining outdoors – either because wards were evacuated after structural inspections or because patients and families fear further tremors. The WHO has confirmed that hospitals are treating far more cases than their capacity allows. At the same time, the DOH has moved to scale up response capacity. The DOH-PEMAT (Philippine Emergency Medical Assistance Team) is ready to deploy field hospital tents in Bogó, equipped with surgical, diagnostic, consultation, and laboratory capabilities. Additional medical teams from Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Centre and other hospitals have been sent to reinforce frontline services.

Blood supplies and essential medicines are being rushed to the area, including airlifted medical kits, maintenance drugs, vitamins, and emergency medical supplies to support local facilities. The DOH has also instituted a no-balance billing policy for quake victims, ensuring that injured individuals in public or private hospitals are not required to pay out-of-pocket costs for essential care. Meanwhile, structural engineering teams from the DOH and DPWH are assessing hospitals and clinics to determine which buildings are safe for use and which should provide only temporary or outdoor care.

But the challenges remain daunting. Many hospital buildings across the earthquake zone still await inspection or repair, limiting available patient spaces. Vulnerable groups, including children, pregnant women, the elderly, and persons with chronic illnesses, face delays or disruptions in receiving care. The strain on medical staff is severe, with specialities such as surgery, orthopaedics, and emergency care especially stretched. Patients moved outdoors face increased exposure to weather, infection risk, and secondary illnesses (respiratory, gastrointestinal). Transporting critical cases from remote barangays is difficult due to damaged roads, limited ambulances, and ongoing aftershocks. In addition to physical health needs, the psychosocial toll is significant. Displacement, loss of homes, and bereavement are affecting communities, creating urgent demand for mental health support.

The Department of Health – Region 7 has mobilised MHPSS teams from the National Centre for Mental Health to provide initial interventions, but current efforts remain insufficient to meet the scale and complexity of needs on the ground. Additional technical and operational support is required to ensure comprehensive and sustained MHPSS services for affected populations.

To sustain care during the recovery, it is vital to fully deploy medical tents close to affected communities so that minor and urgent care can be handled near displacement sites, reducing the burden on hospitals. Essential medicine stocks and blood units must be reinforced, with cold chain and logistics assured. Ambulance fleets should be strengthened, with priority corridors for emergencies. Dedicated care pathways should protect children, expectant mothers, the elderly, and those with chronic diseases. Health and psychosocial volunteers, including mental health counsellors, community health officers, and trained first responders, must be widely deployed to bring services closer to people, especially those far from hospitals or hesitant to enter compromised facilities. As hospital operations gradually recover, this layered system of temporary and permanent health services must persist until the health system is fully stabilised.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Promotion

The earthquake severely disrupted WASH systems across multiple barangays in northern Cebu, particularly in Bogó, where collapsed reservoirs and damaged pipelines left many residents without reliable access to potable water. While water service has largely been restored in many areas, several barangays in Bogó City still experience interruptions, leaving thousands vulnerable. Though partial restoration efforts are underway, relief distributions of bottled water, though vital, are not sustainable in the longer-term. The DSWD has responded by deploying 10 water tankers to Bogó City to deliver potable water to affected residents. Additional water trucks from MCWD and Manila Water, including two 11-cubic metre trucks (MCWD) and one 20-cubic metre truck (Manila Water), have been dispatched to northern Cebu to bolster supply in impacted areas. Manila Water

Philippine Ventures (MWPV) has also delivered 105 million litres of safe drinking water to municipalities, including Bogoto, Medellin, Tabogon, Borbon, and San Remigio using 11 and 20-cubic metre trucks, with plans to distribute additional five-gallon water containers.

Despite these efforts, gaps remain. Some barangays continue to remain underserved, sanitation facilities – especially in temporary settlements – are inadequate or lacking, and the prolonged disruption increases hygiene and disease risks. With the rainy season, stagnant water, open defecation, and inadequate bathing facilities in displacement areas pose increasing risks of waterborne diseases such as diarrhoea, food-borne illnesses, skin infections, vector-borne diseases, and other public health problems.

To effectively address these challenges, relief and recovery operations should also include the deployment of additional water tankers, installation of water purification units and storage bladders, distribution of hygiene kits (soap, menstrual supplies, disinfectants) and jerry cans for household water storage, and the establishment of proper sanitation infrastructure – portable latrines, handwashing stations, and bathing facilities – within tent cities or camp areas. These measures will help ensure safe water access and reduce health risks while longer-term water systems are repaired and communities recover.

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion

Due to ongoing aftershocks days after the initial earthquake, many affected individuals who feel unsafe in their homes are sheltering outside, including along roads. Some of the most vulnerable families have been provided with temporary shelter assistance through PRC-managed camps, where they may need to stay for an extended period before fully rebuilding their lives. This prolonged displacement raises serious protection concerns, including increased risks of gender-based violence (GBV), child abuse, and exploitation, particularly in overcrowded and poorly equipped temporary shelters.

During this time, affected populations face increased vulnerabilities due to inadequate shelter, limited access to healthcare, poor sanitation facilities, and economic instability caused by lost livelihoods. Children, the elderly, persons with disabilities (PWDs), and individuals with chronic medical conditions are at greater risk of violence, neglect, and abuse, and may face challenges accessing assistance.

It is critical to prioritise the protection and specific needs of these vulnerable groups when planning and implementing response efforts. The collection and use of sex, age, and disability disaggregated data (SADDD) is essential for ensuring accountability, equity, and inclusiveness in the humanitarian response.

Over 75,000 people remain displaced, with many staying in evacuation centres or with host families. Traumatic experiences from the earthquake, coupled with ongoing aftershocks, have left communities distressed and afraid to return indoors. Key protection challenges include mental health and psychosocial support, hot meals for displaced families, and safe, dignified spaces for women and children.

Continuous provision of these services is essential to support affected families and help restore a sense of safety and normalcy.

Migration

The earthquake has resulted in large-scale displacement as families are unable or unwilling to return to their homes due to fears of aftershocks and compromised structures. People have taken shelter in various places – some in evacuation centres, others with friends or relatives, in makeshift shelters, or in the worst cases, with little or no protection.

This displacement, combined with power and communication outages, has disrupted the ability of families to stay connected and together. Efforts are needed to account for missing family members, friends, and loved ones who have lost contact.

Education

Education has been severely disrupted, with more than 1,900 classrooms damaged across affected regions, including Region VII (Source: [NDRRMC SitRep No. 8](#)). Classes remain suspended in multiple municipalities while

safety inspections continue, and prolonged interruptions could jeopardise children's access to learning, particularly if aftershocks delay safe returns to school buildings.

The government, through DepEd, is preparing alternative learning arrangements and temporary classrooms, but additional support is needed to establish safe learning spaces, provide school supplies, and integrate psychosocial activities for children.

Community Engagement and Accountability

Households affected by the disaster urgently require assistance from both governmental and non-governmental organisations. Clear communication about available support and how to access it is essential. This information must be easily accessible so that affected households are fully aware of the assistance they can receive. Ongoing monitoring of needs within the affected population is also crucial, as different groups may require specific types of support such as food, shelter, healthcare, and psychosocial services.

The PRC remains committed to informing and engaging affected communities through its community engagement and accountability (CEA) initiative. Welfare desks have been set up in evacuation centres to provide information, assistance, and collect feedback. Additionally, the PRC utilises social media platforms and local news outlets to disseminate important updates and emergency contact details, making it easier for people to seek help. The PRC hotline number, 143, has been active throughout the response, ensuring that community needs are heard and addressed.

The PRC and its chapters collect community feedback through various channels, including face-to-face interviews, feedback boxes, hotlines, and digital tools. Once collected, feedback is processed through several steps:

- **Data Aggregation:** Feedback from different areas is compiled at the chapter and national levels using standardised templates or digital platforms (e.g. KoboToolbox).
- **Analysis:** Data is reviewed regularly to identify recurring issues, unmet needs, or gaps in services, often using dashboards, trend analysis, and categorisation by theme, urgency, or location.
- **Informing the Response:** Analysis helps adjust strategies – such as redirecting resources, changing messaging, or adapting services – so that the humanitarian response remains community-driven, timely, and appropriate.

Additionally, volunteers in different barangays are equipped and will be trained to collect face-to-face feedback in affected communities, including homes or temporary shelters during mobile health or relief operations, using basic tools such as forms, mobile devices, or even informal discussions.

Two-way communication is vital in disaster response. It is not enough to simply provide information; actively listening to the needs and feedback of affected households is equally important. Timely and accurate information can be lifesaving during emergencies, highlighting the importance of delivering support in a responsive and effective manner.

OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

Humanitarian response operations face significant constraints and challenges in reaching and assisting affected populations. Access to impacted communities is hindered by cracked roads, debris, and damaged infrastructure, requiring the use of lower tonnage vehicles capable of navigating smaller and compromised roadways. Building and structural assessments are being conducted at sites prior to relief operations, ensuring safety before deployment.

There is a persistent risk to volunteers and staff, particularly from aftershocks during distributions and community engagement activities. As such, the PRC Operation Centre is actively monitoring the situation, including weather updates, and disseminating necessary alerts in real time.

Duty of care remains a top priority, with proactive safety measures in place to mitigate exposure to unstable infrastructure and environmental hazards. Security protocols include continuous monitoring, security briefings, staff tracking via phone or WhatsApp, and the implementation of contingency plans.

While the overall safety and security situation remains generally stable, damaged infrastructure and disrupted communications still pose operational risks, requiring adaptive and well-coordinated response strategies to ensure the safety of RCRC personnel and the effective delivery of assistance.

Comprehensive measures will be taken to ensure the safety and security of all RCRC personnel involved in this operation, including continuous monitoring of the situation, timely security and safety updates, tracking of staff movements (via phone or WhatsApp), security assessments in operational areas, and pre-deployment safety briefings on the current security environment. Contingency plans and completion of relevant IFRC e-learning courses (e.g. Basic Knowledge and Prevention Measures for Responders, Personal Security, Security Management, Volunteer Security) are mandatory. The IFRC Country Delegation security team maintains close coordination with external humanitarian actors in the country, particularly regarding the earthquake-affected areas, and collaborates closely with PRC branches and local administrations in the operational regions.

FEDERATION-WIDE APPROACH

This Emergency Appeal is part of a Federation-wide approach, based on the response priorities of the National Society and in consultation with all Federation members contributing to the response. The approach will ensure linkages between all response activities (including bilateral activities and activities funded domestically) and will assist in leveraging the capacities of all members of the IFRC network in the country to maximise the collective humanitarian impact.

The Federation-wide funding requirement for this Emergency Appeal comprises all support and funding to be channelled to the PRC in response to the earthquake. This encompasses bilateral contributions in addition to the funding requirement of the IFRC secretariat. For this emergency operation, the PRC's overall funding requirement is CHF 8 million, which comprises CHF 5.5 million through the IFRC's Emergency Appeal, CHF 1.5 million through bilateral funding and CHF 1 million to be mobilised through domestic sources. A DREF allocation of CHF 1 million will ensure a smooth and quick kickstart of relief and response activities.

The Federation-wide approach ensures adequate cooperation between the PRC, IFRC, and National Societies supporting the overall PRC appeal either bilaterally or through the IFRC Emergency Appeal and prevents duplication of partners' efforts and resource utilisation. The entire emergency operation follows one plan, which is led by the PRC. Different thematic aspects are supported by different partners, including the IFRC, and close coordination is maintained with the ICRC. Partners with a specialised capacity will support designated thematic areas within the PRC operations plan. This Federation-wide approach contributes to co-creation, shared leadership, and optimisation of partners' resources in building more resilient communities and helps to develop PRC chapters in being better prepared to respond to future emergencies.

OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Vision

The vision of this Operational Strategy is to enable **72,940 people (14,588 households)** affected by the 6.9 magnitude earthquake to meet their essential needs in a safe and dignified manner, to recover from the crisis in a sustainable way, and to strengthen their resilience against future hazards.

The overall strategy aims to support and meet the needs for shelter, health, WASH, livelihoods, and protection of affected families. Displaced households will receive emergency shelter assistance, including family tents, tarpaulins, shelter tool kits, and essential household items, along with basic camp management services to ensure the safety and dignity of those who take temporary shelter in a camp setting. Through CCCM support, the operation will establish camp management structures, ensure proper registration and information management, facilitate community engagement and participatory decision-making, coordinate with sectoral actors, and uphold safety and protection standards. CCCM support will be provided throughout the emergency

and early recovery phase, gradually transitioning responsibilities to local authorities and community structures while ensuring continuity of essential services.

The DREF grant under this Emergency Appeal will support the prioritisation of affected people's immediate needs during the initial relief, response, and early recovery phase (for a period of nine months), ensuring that the most essential services reach those most in need. The grant will focus on addressing immediate needs identified in the Rapid Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis (RDANA), rather than being allocated according to thematic priorities, providing flexible support based on the basic needs of affected communities.

The emergency operation prioritises building back people's lives and livelihoods while strengthening household and community resilience. This will be achieved through strong community ownership of interventions, with affected people involved in the planning, implementation, monitoring, quality assurance, and impact evaluations.

For full shelter interventions, recipients will be given conditional cash, technical assistance, facilitation of proper documentation, and adequate support to ensure structural integrity and compliance. However, the building of their shelters will be the responsibility of recipients, which reinforces ownership and future maintenance of their homes and common facilities.

For household livelihood assistance (HLA), participants will receive conditional cash for livelihood protection, allowing them to restore their income-generating activities where they still have skills and equipment. Conditions can include attending training in bookkeeping or financial literacy and engagement in community support structure such as Community Managed Livelihood Projects and Community Savings Groups. This approach promotes both household and community ownership of the interventions and supports sustainability beyond the life of the operation. Similar methods will guide any community-level initiatives led by local volunteer groups such as the Barangay Recovery Committee (BaReCom) and Barangay Waterworks and Sanitation Association (BAWASA). By principle and practice, the Red Cross remains with communities before, during, and after natural hazards, and this operation upholds that commitment.

In parallel, PRC welfare desks serve as lifelines for families in distress. Staffed by trained volunteers and personnel, they assist in locating missing individuals, reconnecting separated family members, and helping people reach out to relatives overseas. For Overseas Filipino Worker (OFW) households, this support is critical when communication lines are down and family members working abroad may be unaware of the situation or unable to contact loved ones.

Through its restoring family links (RFL) programme, the PRC helps trace and reunite families across borders. Alongside direct communication support, the PRC also operates a referral system to connect families in need, especially those with OFW members, to government agencies such as the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) or the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA). These referrals can lead to further assistance, including financial aid, legal support, or reintegration services for OFWs returning home due to the disaster.

The PRC embeds an exit strategy and sustainability framework across its key recovery interventions, including full shelter assistance, livelihoods, CMLP, CSG, camp management, and water supply. These strategies are anchored in capacity building, community ownership, and close coordination with local government units. Shelter and water interventions focus on resilient infrastructure and systems that can be maintained locally, while livelihoods support is designed to promote long-term economic independence through skills development and market linkages. Camp management efforts are gradually transitioned to local authorities to ensure both continuity and accountability. Across all sectors, the PRC emphasises community empowerment and strengthening local systems so that resilience and self-sufficiency continue beyond the organisation's operational presence.

Anticipated climate-related risks and adjustments in the operation

The earthquake response operations in Cebu must account for anticipated climate-related risks, as the Philippines, particularly the Visayas region, is highly vulnerable to extreme weather events such as typhoons, heavy rainfall, and the effects of the Southwest Monsoon and La Niña. Climate change has intensified these hazards, resulting in more frequent and severe storms with stronger winds and heavier rainfall, which can trigger landslides, flooding, and storm surges. These risks pose additional challenges to ongoing relief efforts, especially in areas where infrastructure has already been compromised by the recent 6.9-magnitude earthquake.

Many affected families have yet to rebuild secure shelters, leaving them exposed to potential property damage and health risks from subsequent weather events. In response, operational adjustments are being implemented, including flexible planning timelines, pre-positioning of relief items in safer locations, and continuous weather monitoring through the PRC Operations Centre. Teams are prepared to temporarily halt field activities during adverse weather, and contingency plans have been developed to address multiple hazards at the same time. These include coordination with local authorities for early warning dissemination and community evacuation planning. The evolving climate context requires a dynamic, risk-informed approach to earthquake response to ensure the safety of both affected populations and humanitarian personnel.

Targeting

1. People to be assisted

The PRC follows a systematic process for selecting people after disasters. First, rapid assessments are conducted at both the household and area levels soon after the event to gauge the severity of damage and needs. Next, the PRC coordinates with barangay recovery committees or local government units to help identify and validate potential recipients. Community-based targeting and participatory methods are then used, including collecting input from community leaders, performing local area surveys, and, where possible, door-to-door verification.

Before any aid is distributed, lists of the targeted population are validated to ensure that selected households meet the criteria, which include households or families most affected by the disaster; households both in and outside evacuation centres or makeshift shelters; households headed by vulnerable persons (such as single women who are widowed, separated, or divorced without income); families with elderly members or persons with disabilities; families with young children; households whose livelihoods have been severely disrupted; those in remote, isolated or hard-hit areas with limited access to assistance; those who have not yet received substantial assistance; and those that belong to economically disadvantaged, socially excluded, or minority groups.

Under this operation, the selection of target areas is based on an analysis of available secondary data. Sources include government reports from the NDRRMC, Department of Agriculture, and Department of Public Works and Highways, as well as media reports, PRC Operations Centre records, and findings confirmed through rapid assessments conducted by PRC chapters.

Following the assessments conducted, this operation aims to address the immediate, early recovery, and recovery needs of an estimated 72,940 of the most vulnerable individuals (14,498 households) in the municipalities of **Bogo, Medellin, and San Remigio** in Cebu Province.

The overall target of 72,940 individuals (14,498 households) includes those assisted under both the DREF and Emergency Appeal operations. These interventions aim to address immediate response, early recovery, and recovery needs in the municipalities of Bogo, Medellin, and San Remigio in Cebu Province. While the target population remains the same across both phases, the majority of assistance is concentrated on immediate to early response activities, including the distribution of non-food items, health services, WASH interventions, and food security support. Recovery interventions, on the other hand, are more specifically targeted and include Household Livelihood Assistance (10,000 individuals or 2000 HH), Community Managed Livelihood Projects (8 groups or 10 members for each aiming 80 members), Community Savings Groups (10 members each group aiming 40 members), and full shelter assistance (1,250 individuals or 2000 HH), and school repair aimed for 6 schools at supporting long-term recovery and resilience.

Out of the total target, 11,370 (2274 HH) or 15 percent of the target individuals are under recovery interventions.

Humanitarian assistance will focus on two main groups: families residing in the PRC's temporary camp shelters, who will receive a full package of support, and individuals in other municipalities whose humanitarian needs remain unmet. In addition, to ensure transparency, inclusivity, and accuracy, a clear Targeting SOP will be applied as follows: pre-selection of potential targets from LGU, DSWD, or barangay-provided lists; door-to-door verification using the Shelter Severity Form; public posting of shortlisted names; and preparation of a final approved target list disaggregated by sex, age, and disability (SADD).

The increase in the number of individuals targeted by the appeal – from 67,500 to 72,940 – is primarily attributed to the expansion of assistance with people inside camps and in surrounding communities. While the original target focused on those receiving direct aid such as food and household items, the revised figure incorporates individuals reached through a broader range of support services. These include MPCA, full shelter provision, MHPSS, community-managed livelihood programmes, and community savings groups. Additionally, the count now reflects unique beneficiaries of mother and newborn kits, specialised training in CEA, protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), camp management, and the recruitment of volunteers. This comprehensive approach has significantly widened the reach and impact of the appeal, ensuring more inclusive and holistic support for affected communities.

2. Considerations for protection, gender, and inclusion and community engagement and accountability

The PRC ensures that its emergency response and all programmes adhere to the principle of do no harm. The National Society targets the most at-risk communities, ensuring that their specific needs are addressed in a dignified, inclusive, and culturally appropriate manner.

Selection of the targeted population will be based on assessed risks and needs, focusing on women and child-headed households; pregnant or lactating women; men, women, and children made vulnerable by disasters; families with persons with disabilities, older people, or those with chronic illnesses; families with children under five years old; families who have not received any or sufficient assistance from the government or other organisations; socially marginalised families; and those lacking resources to meet basic humanitarian needs.


The PRC will ensure the safeguarding of children and all at-risk affected communities during its operations. Community engagement, accountability, and feedback mechanisms will be integrated into all stages allowing accessible and inclusive community participation, as well as direct access to information on the nature and scope of services. The National Society will systematically listen to, respond to, and act on feedback, enabling local people and communities to apply their knowledge, skills, and capacities to identify appropriate and effective solutions. In the camp setting, the PRC will encourage and facilitate representation and participation in decision-making on daily camp operations through camp committees. Timely and accessible information about services and assistance will be provided to families residing in camps through various channels. Feedback and complaint mechanisms will be set up with a focus on closing the feedback loop by relaying the feedback to the responsible duty bearers and ensuring that all feedback is duly recorded and addressed. In the recovery phase, a Barangay Recovery Committee (BaReCom), composed of a representative number of community representatives such as farmers, the elderly, women's groups, persons with disabilities, and health workers, will be formed to support community engagement and transparent selection of the targeted population. Communities can provide feedback directly to BaReCom members, who play a key role in continuously improving programme implementation.



Protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) standards will be mainstreamed throughout the response, particularly in camp management, where considerations such as gender-segregated facilities, safe spaces for children, adequate lighting, and safe access routes will be integrated to reduce protection risks and uphold dignity. Referral pathways will be established in coordination with local government and protection agencies to connect individuals with specific needs to appropriate service providers. In camp settings, careful planning of tent layouts, registration systems, safe spaces (e.g. for children), gender-segregated latrines and washing areas, lighting, and pathways will further reduce protection risks.

Community engagement and accountability (CEA) will be incorporated at every stage – design, implementation, and monitoring – to ensure that people affected, including women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and other marginalised groups, have a voice in decisions, access to information, feedback mechanisms, and are able to influence the response transparently. By grounding the intervention in data-driven targeting, inclusive planning, and participatory methods, this Operational Strategy aims to deliver equitable and dignified support that meets the urgent needs of disaster-affected communities while laying the groundwork for durable recovery.

PLANNED OPERATIONS

INTEGRATED ASSISTANCE

 <p>Shelter, Housing, and Settlements</p>	Female > 18: 4,585	Female < 18: 3,457	CHF 2,418,000
<p>Objective:</p>	<p>Communities in crisis-affected areas are supported in restoring and strengthening their well-being and dignity through the provision of family tents, basic camp management services, essential household items, as well as emergency and shelter assistance.</p>		
<p>Priority Actions:</p>	<p>Response Phase</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish camps to accommodate 2,000 displaced families in priority areas to provide temporary shelter as a result of the earthquake. 2. Distribute essential household items including blankets, mosquito nets, plastic mats, jerry cans, and hygiene kits to 2,000 families (or 10,000 people) residing within the camps. 3. Provide emergency shelter assistance (tarpaulins and shelter tool kits) to 1,000 families not supported by camp management. 4. Distribute essential household items including blankets, mosquito nets, plastic mats, jerry cans, and hygiene kits to 3,000 households (or 15,000 people) residing outside of the camps. 5. Conduct safe shelter awareness orientation for the recipients of family tents and emergency shelter assistance. 6. Conduct post-distribution monitoring for the household items provided. 7. Conduct camp management refresher training sessions. <p>Recovery Phase</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full shelter assistance was extended to 250 families (around 1,250 individuals), consisting of cash for work, financial support for reconstruction materials, and technical assistance. This intervention followed the Build Back Better approach to ensure safer, more resilient housing in the recovery process. 2. Repair and rehabilitate six damaged schools. 		


 Livelihoods	Female > 18: 2,821	Female < 18: 2,127	CHF 658,000
	Male > 18: 2,800	Male < 18: 2,252	Total target: 10,000 people
Objective:	Communities, especially in disaster and crisis-affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods.		
Priority Actions:	<p>Response Phase</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deploy food trucks with trained volunteers to provide hot meals three times a day for the initial 14 days of the operation for 2,000 individuals residing within the tent city. 2. Separate teams and food trucks with trained volunteers will be deployed to provide hot meals three times a day for the initial seven days of the operation to serve 1,000 people outside of the tent city, ensuring that the nutritional needs of the most vulnerable are met. <p>Recovery Phase</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide household livelihood assistance (HLA) for 10,000 people or 2,000 households, targeting the most vulnerable small vendors, retailers, and farmers to improve, restore, and replace their lost assets or sources of livelihood. HLA will be provided in two tranches: the first tranche of PHP 9,000 (or CHF 138) and the second tranche of PHP 6,000 (or CHF 92), totalling PHP 15,000 per household. 2. Implement the Community Managed Livelihood Project in eight of the most vulnerable communities in need of livelihood and income enhancement. An allocation of PHP 250,000 (CHF 3,787.88) will be given to each selected community to manage their own livelihood project. 3. Establish a Cash Savings Group in four communities to support financial literacy and economic stability in the selected communities. 4. Conduct post-distribution monitoring (PDM) to assess the usefulness of the livelihood activities provided. 		
 Multi-purpose Cash	Female > 18: 7,053	Female < 18: 5,319	CHF 408,000
	Male > 18: 6,999	Male < 18: 5,629	Total target: 25,000 people
Objective:	Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs.		
Priority Actions:	<p>Response Phase</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide MPCG assistance to the most affected 5,000 families (25,000 people) in the amount of PHP 5,000 (CHF 		


69) through a financial service provider. The grant amount is aligned with the recommendation of the Philippines Cash Working Group and based on the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) for one month, covering essential needs while considering inflation. This assistance will help families address critical needs across various sectors, including food, shelter repair, essential household items, communication, transportation, debt payments, livelihoods, general protection needs, education, and WASH.

2. Conduct PDM to assess the usefulness of the MPCG.

HEALTH AND CARE INCLUDING WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

(MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT / COMMUNITY HEALTH)

 <p>Health and Care <i>(Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/ Community Health/ Medical Services)</i></p>	Female > 18: 11,434	Female < 18: 8,616	CHF 159,000
	Male > 18: 9,119	Male < 18: 11,331	Total target: 40,500 people
Objective:	Strengthen the integrated health of individuals and communities affected by the 6.9-magnitude earthquake through community-level interventions and support to health systems, both in camps and in affected communities not covered by temporary shelter assistance.		
Priority Actions:	<p>Mental Health and Psychosocial Support</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct immediate MHPSS activities, including psychological first aid, psychoeducation, and child-friendly spaces in the affected communities to alleviate emotional distress during the emergency response. The PRC will ensure that coordination mechanisms are in place through the MHPSS sub-cluster, local health units, and other organisations. An integrated referral pathway and mechanisms to refer individuals who may require higher-level MHPSS interventions will also be established. 2. Provide appropriate and timely mental health and psychosocial support activities and services to PRC staff and volunteers. <p>Community Health</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distribute 500 Mother's Kits to pregnant and lactating women in priority communities in addition to 500 Newborn Kits. 		

	<p>Medical Services</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mobilise ambulances to transport patients and injured individuals who need hospital care services. 2. Conduct Health Caravan/medical missions to priority affected areas to provide basic health care services such as medical consultations, health promotion activities, and the provision of medicines, in coordination with local health units and other local partners. 3. Enhance provincial hospital capacity by deploying airconditioned tent units, cot beds, and medical personnel (doctors and nurses). 4. Set up medical tents in the camps to provide basic health services and to monitor health conditions. 		
 <p>Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene</p>	Female > 18: 5,963	Female < 18: 7,914	CHF 829,000
	Male > 18: 6,305	Male < 18: 7,848	Total target: 28,030 people
<p>Objective:</p>	<p>Ensure safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and adequate hygiene awareness in communities during the relief and recovery phases of the Emergency Operation, through both community-based and organisational interventions.</p>		
<p>Priority Actions:</p>	<p>Response Phase</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deploy PRC WASH assets (water tankers and water treatment units) and teams to provide safe drinking water in camps and other affected priority communities. The PRC will provide 15 litres of potable drinking water per person per day based on Sphere Standards for 90 days. 2. Conduct hygiene promotion and sanitation activities. IEC materials on hygiene promotion with key messages on personal hygiene and sanitation practices will be distributed. 3. Provide hygiene kits to 5,000 families (25,000 individuals). This will be accompanied by hygiene promotion sessions to ensure the proper use of relief items and hygiene practices, including menstrual hygiene management. The IFRC standard hygiene kit contains twelve bars of body soap, five bars of laundry soap, 40 sanitary pads, five bath towels, six rolls of toilet paper, two tubes of toothpaste, five toothbrushes, and four disposable razors. 4. The PRC incorporates menstrual hygiene management (MHM) as a vital component of its hygiene promotion efforts during the distribution of hygiene kits. By providing essential menstrual products alongside health education, the PRC ensures that women and girls can manage their menstrual health safely and with dignity. This approach not only addresses immediate hygiene 		

needs but also promotes awareness and reduces stigma, contributing to overall community well-being and resilience.


5. Provide two jerry cans (10L) to 5,000 affected families.
6. Establish handwashing, laundry, and gender-segregated bathing facilities and latrines for those residing in temporary shelters to ensure proper sanitation.

Recovery Phase

1. Repair and maintenance of deployed water treatment units.
2. For sanitation planning, the PRC will ensure the formation of the Barangay Waterworks and Sanitation Association (BAWASA), which will be responsible for the operation and maintenance of WASH facilities.
3. The provision of water services within the camps will be implemented over a 90-day period as part of the initial emergency response. Beyond this timeframe, the local water district will assume responsibility for ensuring long-term access through the planned installation of water pipelines. To support the transition from emergency to recovery, the PRC will formally turn over the provision of water to the camps through the local government and barangays, facilitating sustained water supply while infrastructure improvements are underway. This coordinated approach ensures both immediate relief and the continuity of essential services.
4. Conduct hygiene promotion sessions in communities, with the use of relevant IEC materials to reinforce the delivery of key messages.
5. Conduct Hygiene Promotion in Emergencies Training for PRC staff and volunteers.

PROTECTION AND PREVENTION

(PROTECTION, GENDER, AND INCLUSION (PGI), COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CEA), MIGRATION, RISK REDUCTION, CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RECOVERY, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, EDUCATION)

 Protection, Gender, and Inclusion	Female > 18: 16,423	Female < 18: 20,583	CHF 19,000
	Male > 18: 20,421	Male < 18: 15,513	Total target: 72,940 people
Objective:	Communities identify the needs of the most at-risk and particularly disadvantaged and marginalised groups, who face inequality, discrimination, or violations of their human rights, and address their distinct needs.		

Priority Actions:

1. The PRC will integrate the IFRC Minimum Standards into all sectors of its emergency programming to meet the needs of affected individuals.
2. Conduct a refresher training on PGI for staff and volunteers to ensure that PGI minimum standards in emergencies are well mainstreamed in the operation, safeguarding and protecting children, especially girls and women.
3. Establish child-friendly spaces (CFS) to provide a safe and supportive environment for displaced families, particularly for children, where they can participate in age-appropriate activities and receive psychosocial support. CFS kits – including tarpaulin signs, crayons, coloured papers, paper reams, story books (Filipino), stress balls, rubber balls, beach balls, skipping ropes, building blocks, First Aid kits (small), clay dough (different colours), rubber mats, balls (volleyball, basketball, soccer), flashlights, whistles, rechargeable lamps, and tackle boxes – will be distributed to 200 children.
4. Conduct child safeguarding analysis to identify any risks posed to children and to protect them from all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect within the PRC-IFRC programme, emphasising preventive measures and accountability.
5. Ensure diversity among staff and volunteers, including both males and females, as the targeted population includes women and child-headed households.
6. Ensure that staff and volunteers adhere to the Code of Conduct and other policies, such as PSEA, by signing these documents.
7. Establish referral pathways in the camps to safely refer and manage protection incidents and special needs to relevant service providers.
8. Collect SADD data across all activities to understand the needs of different genders, age groups, and abilities.



Community Engagement and Accountability

Female > 18: 6,423

Female < 18: 20,583

CHF 4,000

Male > 18: 20,421

Male < 18: 15,513

**Total target:
72,940 people**


Objective:


Targeted communities are consulted and able to share their feedback on the planned or received assistance, allowing programmes and operations to be adjusted and adapted accordingly.

Priority Actions:

1. Orient and disseminate the PRC's CEA guidelines to key staff and volunteers engaged in the operation.
2. Set-up feedback desks, hotlines, and online platforms to collect and document comments and criticism.
3. Facilitate the formation of camp committees to ensure the participation and representation of families residing in the camps in regard to decision-making on daily operations.
4. Widely and clearly communicate the selection criteria for all sectors to recipients and non-recipients, using a range of channels and approaches, even when the criteria are already fixed.
5. Systematically share information on sectoral plans, progress, activities, and distribution processes, including any delays and challenges, along with emphasising people's rights and entitlements. Stress that aid is provided free of charge to minimise the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse, and corruption. Provide a question-and-answer (Q&A) sheet for volunteers to use when in camps and communities to help them share consistent information.
6. Conduct PDM within the camps and to the affected communities not supported by camp management to assess the utilisation of the distributed items. Include an exit interview feedback session in PDM and other data collection activities.
7. Conduct a CEA crash course for 50 staff and volunteers.

Enabling approaches

 <p>National Society Strengthening</p>	Female > 18: N/A	Female < 18: N/A	CHF 330,000
	Male > 18: N/A	Male < 18: N/A	Total target: Not applicable
Objective:	Capacity building and organisational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that the PRC has the necessary legal, ethical, and financial foundations, systems, structures, competencies, and capacities to plan and perform.		
Priority Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Operational Support Services: Based on the technical and coordination support required for this operation, support functions will be established for roles including human resources, logistics and supply chain, communications, security, PMER, partnerships and resource development, and finance and administration. These positions will be deployed at both the National Headquarters and field levels. All volunteers involved in 		

	<p>the operation will be insured under the PRC's Membership and Accident Assistance Benefit (MAAB).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. National Society Capacity Building: The capacity of staff, volunteers, and systems at both National Headquarters and chapter levels will be assessed, and plans will be made to strengthen them. Areas of focus include logistics, warehousing, fleet, financial management, digitisation, PGI, fraud and corruption prevention, epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response, climate smart programming, and disaster preparedness. Capacity building will be delivered through different models, including blended training, mentoring, on-the-job training, demonstrations, and re-demonstrations. 3. Repair the branch building at Bogu City, Cebu branch and construct a storehouse as part of the branch building facility. 4. Recruit RC 143 volunteers in Cebu province. 5. Provide technical support from the IFRC to the PRC as required. 		
 <p>Coordination and Partnerships</p>	Female > 18: N/A	Female < 18: N/A	CHF 33,000
	Male > 18: N/A	Male < 18: N/A	Total target: Not applicable
Objective:	Strengthen coordination within the IFRC membership, within the Movement, and with relevant external actors to achieve technical and operational complementarity and enhance cooperation with external partners.		
Priority Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Membership Coordination: Support the PRC in leading the overall response by ensuring a coordinated approach with the seven National Societies present in the Philippines, as well as with National Societies providing support without a presence in the country. 2. Engagement with external partners: Continuously coordinate with government and non-government agencies, including members of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). The IFRC is participating in various clusters and working groups and leading the Shelter cluster. 3. Movement Cooperation: As part of Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC), the PRC, IFRC, ICRC, and Participating National Societies continue to coordinate via established platforms such as Movement Coordination meetings hosted by the PRC. The IFRC and PRC are also coordinating with the ICRC on security considerations in some affected areas, as well as on potential complementary actions where required. 		

 Shelter Cluster Coordination	Female > 18: N/A	Female < 18: N/A	CHF 0
	Male > 18: N/A	Male < 18: N/A	Total target: Not applicable
Objective:	The humanitarian shelter and settlements sector is well coordinated, supporting a comprehensive, quality, coherent, and consistent shelter and settlements response.		
Priority Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inform and guide strategic decision-making for the humanitarian response by conducting a needs assessment and response gap analysis for the shelter and settlements sector. 2. Identify shelter and settlements advocacy concerns to contribute to the Humanitarian Country Team's messaging and actions; undertake advocacy activities on behalf of shelter cluster participants and the affected population. 3. Monitor and report on the implementation of the shelter cluster strategy and results, recommending corrective actions where necessary. Conduct contingency planning, preparedness, and capacity building activities in situations with a high risk of recurring or significant new disasters, where sufficient capacity exists within the cluster. 4. Coordinate the conduct of lessons learned exercises to improve the shelter response actions of shelter agencies. 		
 IFRC Secretariat Services	Female > 18: N/A	Female < 18: N/A	CHF 642,000
	Male > 18: N/A	Male < 18: N/A	Total target: Not applicable
Objective:	The IFRC secretariat is capable and equipped to support the PRC in delivering services as planned in the Emergency Appeal in a timely manner and in full compliance of IFRC policies, procedures, and minimum standards as stated in the Sphere guidelines and Humanitarian charter.		
Priority Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Human Resources: All operational activities will be implemented by utilising existing PRC staff, NDRT, and volunteers. The IFRC Philippines Country Delegation will support the PRC in providing complementary technical and support service staff as required to ensure accountability and compliance with regards to the operation, including IFRC Surge personnel. 2. Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER): A Federation-wide approach will be maintained 		

in planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting, and evaluation. Reporting and monitoring of the operation will be carried out in accordance with the IFRC's monitoring and reporting standards. Regular updates will be issued during the operation's timeframe, including a final report. The operation's monitoring teams will conduct field visits as needed, while a lessons learned workshop will be initiated for the DREF grant, and a final evaluation will be conducted to ensure the operation's accountability and effectiveness.

3. **Logistics** activities aim to effectively manage the supply chain, including procurement, customs clearance, fleet management, storage, and transport to distribution sites in accordance with the operation's requirements and in alignment with the IFRC's logistics standards, processes, and procedures. The PRC will mobilise its pre-positioned stocks for immediate relief assistance and items will be replenished through local and international procurement and in-kind donations, where appropriate.
4. **Finance and Administration:** The IFRC will provide the necessary support to the operation to review and validate budgets, conduct timely fund transfers, and ensure technical assistance to the National Society regarding expense justification procedures and the review and validation of operational liquidations.
5. **Communications and Advocacy:** The National Society will be supported to increase their outreach and advocacy. The IFRC will continue to engage the media and use social media to position the PRC as a key player in response and recovery.
6. **Security:** The IFRC's security plans will apply to all IFRC staff throughout the operation. Security support will focus on enabling safe and effective implementation of activities through continuous security risk assessments, staff security briefings, and operational advice. Tailored security training sessions will be organised for staff and volunteers to strengthen awareness and preparedness. In addition, capacity-building support will be provided to the National Society to enhance its security management framework and response capabilities. All IFRC personnel must, and Red Cross Red Crescent staff and volunteers are encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses. The National Society's security framework will apply throughout the duration of the operation to its staff and volunteers.
7. **Civil-military relations:** The IFRC will support the PRC in its auxiliary role to ensure that core humanitarian values and Red Cross Red Crescent fundamental principles will never be compromised when working in the same humanitarian space as the military and other security services. If PRC chapters are required to work in close coordination with military and/or other security actors,

this will be done in accordance with the principles of last resort, do no harm, and distinction; avoiding armed protection; sharing information that does not compromise the neutrality and independence of their humanitarian action; and promoting the proper use of the Red Cross emblem.





Risk management






Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Occurrence of aftershocks	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct assessments of buildings or locations where the operations will be conducted. Risk of deployed volunteers and staff members that were engaged in distribution and community work, because of aftershocks. Proactive security measures are in place, and team leaders are aware of the mitigating measures to be taken to avoid such risks.
Occurrence of earthquakes in other areas	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PRC Operations Centre will continue to monitor seismic activities in other areas and provide necessary information as needed. Proper coordination regarding the potential impacts on the availability of resources and manpower must be conducted to support informed decision-making processes if the event occurs. Ensure the pre-positioning of relief items in strategic regional warehouse locations.
Typhoon season in the Philippines, upcoming weather disturbances may exacerbate the already dire conditions of communities affected by the earthquake	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PRC Operations Centre will continue to monitor the current weather situation and provide necessary alerts as and when required.
Access to the affected communities and delivery of assistance (cracked roads, debris, damaged infrastructure)	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duty of care as a priority – mitigate and avoid any risks to frontline volunteers and staff posed by immediate dangers, such as damaged infrastructure. Use


			lower tonnage vehicles for distribution to access smaller roads.
Detailed assessments find more extensive damage than anticipated, and the response activities exceed the resources generated	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the operation under a revised appeal with an increase in the funding requirement, as needed. Mobilise additional resources, including from partners and domestic sources.

Quality and accountability

The following indicators will be tracked:

Intervention Areas	
Integrated Assistance	
 Shelter, Housing, and Settlements	
Indicators	Target
<i>Number of affected families provided with essential household items</i>	5,000
<i>Number of affected families provided with temporary shelter assistance (family tents)</i>	2,000
<i>Number of affected families provided with emergency shelter assistance</i>	1,000
<i>Number of individuals oriented on safe shelter awareness</i>	15,000
<i>Number of affected families provided with full shelter assistance</i>	250
<i>Number of schools repaired/rehabilitated</i>	6
<i>Number of staff and volunteers trained by camp management refresher training</i>	50
<i>Number of camp management training sessions conducted</i>	1
 Livelihoods	
Indicators	Target
<i>Number of people provided with hot meals</i>	3,000
<i>Number of affected families provided with conditional cash grants through HLA</i>	2,000
<i>Number of communities receiving support through the Community-managed Livelihood Projects (CMLP) that report improved net income through skill building</i>	8
<i>Number of Community-Savings Groups (CSGs) formed/organised</i>	4
<i>Number hot meal crash courses conducted</i>	1
<i>Number of staff and volunteers trained in the hot meals crash course</i>	50
 Multipurpose Cash	
Indicators	Target
<i>Number of households that received multi-purpose cash grants</i>	5,000
Health and Care including Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	
 Health and Care	
Indicators	Target

<i>Number of individuals reached with basic health services (including medicines and first aid)</i>	10,000
<i>Number of individuals reached with health promotion activities</i>	10,000
<i>Number of chapters' first aid kits provided</i>	20
<i>Number of pregnant and lactating women that received mother's and newborn kits</i>	500
<i>Number of affected families provided with insecticide treated mosquito nets</i>	5,000
<i>Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services</i>	5,000
<i>Number of medical tents established in the camps</i>	6
<i>Number of staff and volunteers that attended the mental health and psychosocial support crash course</i>	25
 Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	
Indicators	Target
<i>Number of people provided with safe drinking water through the RCRC's emergency supply</i>	28,000
<i>Number of litres of water distributed (according to WHO standards)</i>	6,750,000
<i>Number of families provided with two 10L jerry cans each</i>	5,000
<i>Number of people reached through hygiene promotion and IEC materials</i>	28,000
<i>Number of families provided with hygiene kits</i>	5,000
<i>Number of people provided with access to safely managed sanitation facilities</i>	500
<i>Number of staff and volunteers trained in hygiene promotion</i>	30
Protection and Prevention	
 Protection, Gender, and Inclusion	
Indicators	Target
<i>Number of chapters that conducted child safeguarding risk analysis</i>	1
<i>Number of child-friendly spaces established</i>	3
<i>Number of children reached with child-friendly activities</i>	200
<i>Number of staff and volunteers trained in the PGI refresher course</i>	30
 Community Engagement and Accountability	
Indicators	Target
<i>Number of staff and volunteers oriented in the CEA crash course</i>	50
<i>Percentage of complaints and feedback received responded to by the PRC</i>	100%
<i>Percentage of targeted families satisfied that they have access to information and can provide feedback</i>	90%
Enabling Approaches	
 National Society Strengthening	
Indicators	Target
<i>Number of Red Cross 143 mobilised and trained</i>	1,000
<i>Number of chapter/ branch buildings reconstructed and equipped</i>	1
<i>Conduct a lesson learned workshop by the end of the DREF operation</i>	1
<i>Number of evaluations conducted for this operation</i>	1
<i>Number of post-distribution monitoring conducted</i>	3
 Coordination and Partnerships	

Indicators	Target
<i>Number of Movement coordination meetings organised, and updates provided to Movement partners</i>	6
<i>Number of Shelter Cluster Coordination meetings and training sessions undertaken</i>	24
<i>Number of training sessions conducted for damaged shelter assessments</i>	4
<i>Number of people trained in shelter damaged assessments</i>	120
 IFRC Secretariat Services	
Indicators	Target
<i>Number of surge personnel deployed to support the operation</i>	7
<i>% of financial reporting in compliance with IFRC procedures</i>	100%
<i>% in compliance with the PRC's HR procedures</i>	100%
<i>% in compliance with IFRC safeguarding, child protection, and minimum PGI standards</i>	100%

Several safeguarding principles will be employed for this operation to actively prevent any harm and abuse to children and other vulnerable groups. The PRC will conduct a child safeguarding risk analysis and draw on similar findings from past operations to identify and rate the risks posed to children throughout this operation. With this information, key actions will be chosen to reduce the risk of harm against children and other at-risk groups aligned with the PRC's existing guidelines, including the Child Protection Policy and Policy on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA).

PRC staff and volunteers engaged in this operation are screened for any past offences and receive orientation on the Child Protection Policy and safeguarding prior to commencing work. With technical support from National Headquarters and the IFRC, PRC chapters will map services for children who have been harmed and for victim-survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), ensuring that safe referral and reporting mechanisms are in place to adequately address exploitation, harm, and abuse. Age and context-appropriate, accessible community engagement, and accountability practices and tools will be deployed to ensure that at-risk groups have meaningful opportunities to voice their concerns and provide suggestions to improve the assistance they receive from the PRC.

FUNDING REQUIREMENT

Federation-wide funding requirement*

Federation-wide Funding Requirement including the National Society domestic target, IFRC Secretariat and the Participating National Society funding requirement	IFRC Secretariat Funding Requirement in support of the Federation-wide funding ask
CHF 8 million	CHF 5.5 million

*For more information on the Federation-wide funding requirement, refer to the section: Federation-wide Approach

Breakdown of the IFRC secretariat funding requirement



OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

MDRPH057 - Philippines
Cebu Earthquake

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Planned Operations	4,495,000
Shelter and Basic Household Items	2,418,000
Livelihoods	658,000
Multi-purpose Cash	408,000
Health	159,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	829,000
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	19,000
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	4,000
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	1,005,000
Coordination and Partnerships	33,000
Secretariat Services	642,000
National Society Strengthening	330,000
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS	5,500,000

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Contact information

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

At the Philippine Red Cross:

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For IFRC Resource Mobilisation and Pledges support:

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For In-Kind Donations and Mobilisation table support:

- Nuraiza Khairuddin, Manager – Regional Logistics Unit; email: nuraiza.khairuddin@ifrc.org

Reference



Click here for:

- [Emergency Appeal](#)