

Information bulletin

Philippines: Tropical Storm GONI

Glide n° TC-2020-000214-PHL	Date of issue: 29 October 2020
Expected date of crisis: 30 October 2020	Point of contact: Leonardo Ebajo, Disaster Management Services
Operation start date: Early actions being initiated from 27 October 2020	Expected timeframe: N/A
Category of disaster: Orange	
Host National Society(ies): Philippine Red Cross	
Number of people affected: N/A	Number of people to be assisted: N/A
N° of National Societies currently involved in the operation (if available and relevant): N/A	
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation (if available and relevant): N/A	

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) is currently monitoring the situation and is preparing its support ahead of the forecasted typhoons in the coming days. PRC with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is seeking for an Imminent DREF to support the operation. However, this might change as the situation evolves, especially after the information on impact of the tropical cyclone is more available.

[<click here for detailed contact information>](#)

The situation

On the evening of 27 October 2020, a tropical depression developed over the Western Pacific Ocean, Northwest of Guam. Once inside the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) it will be given local name "Rolly" (GONI). As per the [Philippines Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration \(PAGASA\)](#) bulletin at 11.00 am local time today (29 October 2020), that GONI intensified into a severe tropical storm while moving westward, with a maximum sustained winds of 95 kilometers per hour near the center and gustiness of up to 115 kilometers per hour. It is forecasted to enter the eastern boundary of the PAR this afternoon or evening. It is forecasted to move generally westward by Saturday evening, then west-north westward by Sunday as it moves towards Quezon - Aurora area before making landfall on Sunday morning, 1 November 2020. It is forecast to reach typhoon Category 3 within 24 hours and will continue to intensify while moving over the Philippine Sea. As it moves towards eastern sections of Central and Southern Luzon, it may bring heavy rains over those areas starting this Friday (30 October 2020).



Path of Tropical Storm GONI. (Photo: PAGASA)

Tropical Storm GONI will take a similar path as of Tropical Storm Quinta, which will increase the vulnerability of the people affected. According to National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) [Sitrep No 4](#), due to typhoon Quinta 16 people died, 57,742 families were affected and 16,830 families are still being served inside

916 evacuation centers and left at least P429.7 million damage to agriculture and infrastructure.

The Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS) has reported that for Tropical Storm GONI, 6,485,007 people will be exposed to a Category 1 (120 kilometers per hour), or higher typhoon and has issued an “Red Alert” rating of 2.5, predicting a possible “High” level of humanitarian impact.

In addition to the typhoons, La Niña is present, and most models suggest moderate to strong La Niña is likely to persist until April 2021. La Niña is usually associated with above normal rainfall conditions across most areas of the country during the last quarter of the year and early months of the following year. The rain forecast for the whole country during the months of November and December will be above normal rainfall conditions. The water level in dams and river basins are also forecasted to be having above normal level. Hence possible flooding and landslides could be expected.

According to PAGASA, Tropical Storm GONI will be the 18th tropical cyclone for 2020 to enter PAR. It would also be the 5th tropical cyclone for October alone. It is expected there will be a further one to three typhoons in November and two or three more in December 2020.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

In accordance with PRC’s standard operating procedures, the Operations Centre (OpCen), which functions 24/7, is on heightened alert. National Headquarters (NHQ) has instructed chapters to be ready to respond through the delivery of services including – relief, first aid, search and rescue, psychosocial support and welfare.

PRC chapters in the areas most likely to be affected will communicate with community volunteers (Red Cross 143) for information, and to start implementing early warning measures in coordination with the local government. Chapter Red Cross Action Teams (RCAT 143) are on standby. National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT), Emergency Response Units (ERU), health and welfare personnel have also been alerted, for possible deployment. PRC NHQ is preparing the deployment of assets, stocks and personnel to Chapters that are in areas mostly likely to be affected.

PRC have requested an imminent DREF activation to mobilize food and non-food items, response assets, and relief and assessment teams. Existing stocks are now being prepared for dispatch to areas which are expected to be most affected.

Considering the current COVID-19 situation in country, PRC has incorporated COVID-19 guidelines into its response protocols. These measures will limit the risks of spreading the virus and protecting those involved (staff, volunteers and item recipients). These measures will be incorporated into the DREF.

The IFRC Philippines Country Office is monitoring the situation in close contact with its counterparts in the PRC NHQ. IFRC will coordinate closely PRC to determine if a full DREF will be activated based on the impact of the storm at landfall and in the meantime undertake preparedness activities as necessary. The PRC and IFRC communications teams will post updates and photos of the situation on Facebook and Twitter.

The IFRC is the co-lead of the Shelter Cluster with the government lead agency Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). The IFRC coordination focal point in the country coordinates with OCHA and sector partners on inter-agency to prepare for the typhoon. COVID-19 guidelines for shelter activities are already in place and can be utilized by partners.

IFRC Philippines Country Office will coordinate with and update National Societies in country. The IFRC Philippines Country Office is working in close coordination with the German Red Cross to identify, where appropriate, early actions (which are part of a Forecast-based Financing (FbF) project for typhoons could be incorporated. The Country Office is also in contact with the ICRC on any possible security issues in the likely affected areas.

In 2020, PRC has been managing operations supported through the IFRC DREF and Emergency Appeal (EA) mechanisms in response to earthquakes (i.e. Mindanao), volcanoes (i.e. Taal), typhoon (i.e. Phanfone), disease outbreaks (i.e. measles and polio) and returnees.



Click here

- 1. Click [here](#) to see the map (if available)**
- 2. Click [here](#) to return to the title page**

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.
