



NDYS in Action, Newsletter

Natural Disaster Youth Summit Monthly News

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LET'S BE PREPARED FOR DISASTER!

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Topics

Natural Disasters and Disaster Reduction

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NDYS Youth Editors

Flood in Philippines

Since the Typhoon Fengshen whipped Philippines the high death toll was attributed to flash flooding, with water levels as high as a two-storey house. Particularly hard hit were the provinces of the Western Visayas, the central Philippines island chain. The NDCC (National Disaster Coordinating Council) figures as of 27 June confirm at least 629 dead, more than 900 missing, and 2.4 million displaced.

The US has committed \$100,000 in assistance through the Philippine National Red Cross, as has the Chinese government. The UN has also promised the NDCC it would assist in ravaged areas.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has reportedly appealed for SwFr8,310,213 (\$8 million) in cash, kind or services, in response to a request for support from the Philippines National Red Cross to assist 6,000 families for 12 months with clean water and shelter. Its priority is the prevention of water-borne diseases, including malaria, measles and diarrhea diseases.

The latest to offer assistance are the governments of France and Australia. The French ambassador to the Philippines Gerard Chesnel handed over 70,000 Euros (\$110,000) to the Philippine National Red Cross and Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd gave Aus\$500,000 (\$480,000).

The Philippines is hit by about 20 typhoons annually. It is high time to continue improving health centers and teaching people.



Water levels were as high as a two-storey house.

Myanmar, the crisis continue

Cyclone Nargis struck in Myanmar leaving more than 138,000 dead or missing and affecting some 2.4 million. Now people has to travel by boat at least 4 hours because they are far from the main town, were they are given food, oil, salt and so on by the World Food Program.

According to the UN, just over half of Labutta's 374,000 inhabitants were severely affected by the cyclone, with half its 500 villages destroyed. By 26 June, WFP had reached more than 300,000 cyclone-affected beneficiaries in Labutta with 3,850 MT of mixed commodities. More than 500 villages/ward/camps under 50 village tracts, the smallest government administrative zone in Labutta, were covered.

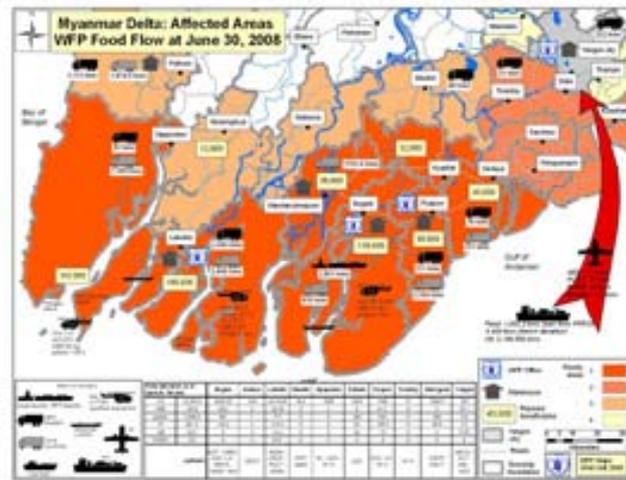
Actually, almost 28 percent of the affected people reported having no food stock available on the day of the survey, while another 43 percent said they only had food stocks sufficient to last between one and seven days.

People were drawing from multiple sources to meet their daily food requirements: 51 percent were dependent on humanitarian food assistance and 54 percent on purchases from local markets.

Meanwhile, in Yangon Division, which was also badly affected by the category four storm, but where urban markets have largely recovered, the food agency had been providing cash assistance to about 49,490 cyclone-affected people. "This is the average amount one would spend on food on a daily basis," the WFP official said of the US 50 cents daily allowance. "Giving them cash will ensure they will be able to buy their own food," she explained of the four-week programme for beneficiaries which began in early June.

The programme, has, however, since been halted by the authorities, due to their strong

reservations about cash handouts.



Source: www.irinnews.org

The WFP map of the affected areas.



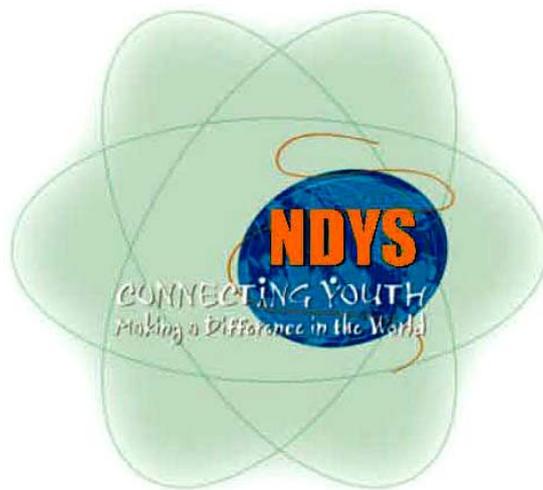
Comments: I am happy for hearing that Myanmar people are receiving help from all over the world, I think they should stand together, because that is the only way which will make them success.

I feel so sad for hearing what happened to Philippines, too many deaths! That is a sad, but good lection that with prevention and good organization, these kinds of problems can be not so huge!

■ For more information please contact ■

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"Communication saves lives!"