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The VOICE of YOUTH is NEEDED!

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Salta, Argentina



Topics
Disaster Reduction and Climate Change
Thousands displaced in Philippines.

Thousands displaced in Philippines

Flash floods left 200,000 people displaced and produced landslides. Almost 35 people died and other nine are missing. This catastrophe affected Luzon province the most. In the region of Mindanao there were reported damages above u\$50,000.

Many areas still need the reach of supplies and the displaced people are staying at refugee camps. In eleven towns the situation is desperate. In some of them the water level reached 1,5 meters.

The majority of the fatalities were in towns in the north-eastern section of mineral-rich Island, which bore the brunt of the flooding and where forest cover has diminished over the past decade due to excessive logging and mining.

Logging and mining are being blamed for causing the floods. In the north region at least 500,000 hectares were lost by illegal logging.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Mindanao region and Luzon province have been hard hit by the catastrophe.

According to the Philippine National Red Cross, they evacuated almost 8,000 people in some coastal provinces. Road and bridges in the north region are blockaded.

The World Food Programme said that they are ready to provide additional support and also the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) exposed their intentions to mobilize their staff and resources. But there is a problem which could strain local government resources further and it is the conflict between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rebels.

Sad news is going around tables and reunions. A man was killed last month in a strange attack in which a gunman shot him after he delivered rice.

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Topics

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Interesting plan developed in Afghanistan.

Interesting plan developed in Afghanistan



This is what the 6.1 magnitude earthquake occurred in 1998 left.

Afghanistan suffered the worst earthquake in 1998 which killed more than 3,500 people and damaged many houses displacing thousands of people.

During this month, Afghanistan was shocked by many tremors. The last tremor was detected in Kabul, its capital, during the early morning on 18 this month. On 4 January a 6,2 magnitude earthquake shacked the same region and 6 magnitude tremors were felt in the 3 to 5 January period.

According to the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) there were no dead people but more than 10 houses were damaged in Badakhshan province.

The ARCS is preparing a contingency plan to minimize the bad consequences of earthquakes. This plan will be only for Kabul city by now. "The contingency plan has been prepared to respond to post-quake emergencies in time and effectively, and to alleviate the resulting human suffering," said Abdul Rahman Kalantary, ARCS's director of disaster response.

The plan consists in rescue operations, training volunteers, relief delivery and logistics. There are more than 24,000 volunteers around the country, but a lack of adequate resources has been a major challenge in its quake contingency programme. The ARCS said there is not a safe place to store food and stuffs to be used in an emergency, but they will act quickly in a case like this. They have emergency kits for water decontaminating which would be distributed in case of need. The contingency plan will be applied for quakes beyond magnitude six (Richter scale).



This family lost its entire house because of the tremors. Weak buildings are threatening many people lives in the north-eastern area.

Parts of central, northern and northeastern Afghanistan are prone to seismic waves. This natural vulnerability has been exacerbated by prevalent illegal and substandard construction, weak essential infrastructure and widespread lack of awareness on the risks of earthquakes and other natural disasters.

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Topics

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The effective but long recovery plan.

The effective but long recovery plan

The UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, Bishow Parajuli, said that it will take three to four years for Myanmar to recover from the cyclone which hit the Ayeyard delta on early May. We have to remember this cyclone, Nargis, left almost 140,000 dead people and thousands of destroyed buildings such as houses, schools and hospitals.

Since the quick response from the UN World Food Programme (WFP) after the cyclone, they delivered food to more than 1 million people and a new assessment in February will determine the continuity of the support. By now the WFP will continue delivering food till April, supporting at least 450,000 people.



People receiving clean and fresh water
in a refugee camp.



Nargis left this principal avenue destroyed. Everything looked like taken from
a bad dream for Myanmar people.

There are 25,000 people engaged in a food-for-work programme. But the most important economic action is that the u\$s 477 million budget designated to emergency relief and early recovery efforts, is 64% funded. This amount of money came from 23 NGO and 13 UN organizations.

The three-year plan will focus on restoring productive, healthy and secure lives at a cost of more than \$230 million per year and cover health, livelihood, education, shelter, disaster-preparedness response, water and sanitation as well as the environment.



Comments: I am really happy for knowing about the Afghan plan. In my opinion, despite of the fact they waited things to happen, it is a very good example to other earthquake prone countries.

I feel sad for what happened in Philippines, so I invite you all to give our best wishes for that people.

I want to say to Myanmar people that it is hard to look beyond a four-year plan, but if you only dedicate your time to work, you will realize the time finally came. So let's be strong and don't give up.

■ **For more information please contact** ■

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"Communication saves lives!"