



WFP (Philippines)
SPECIAL OPERATION SO (200390)

Country:	Philippines
Type of project:	Special Operation
Title:	Logistics Augmentation in support of the Government of the Philippines response to Tropical Storm Washi
Total cost (US\$):	US\$ 662,055
Duration:	3 months: December 20 th 2011 to March 19 th 2012

Executive Summary

Tropical Storm Washi, known locally as Sendong, swept across the Philippines from the 16th to 18th December 2011, bringing strong winds and extremely heavy rain that caused massive flooding, flash floods and landslides. According to Government assessments, a total of 348,749 persons have been affected from 31 municipalities and 8 cities in 13 provinces of southern Philippines.

On December 19th the Government of The Republic of the Philippines officially accepted the offer of assistance from the international humanitarian community, while at the same time a specific request was received by the World Food Programme Country Director to provide logistics and transport support on behalf of the Government.

Project Background

1. Tropical Storm Washi caused an average month's rain fall to occur over a 3 day period. As a result the local river system overflowed and flooded the cities of Cagayan de Oro and Iligan on the southern island of Mindanao.
2. The President of the Philippines declared a State of National Calamity on December 20th which will allow the Philippines to access ADB, World Bank and other internal funding sources to assist the areas affected by Tropical Storm Washi.
3. The following lifesaving needs have been identified by the Government: tents and emergency shelter, food items, bottled water, NFI (blankets and mats) WASH kits as well as logistical support.

Project Justification

4. In order to address the request from the Government of the Philippines in regard to logistics support, as well as to prepare for perceived needs of the wider humanitarian community, immediate logistical augmentation, coordination and support is required. As the humanitarian community scales up its relief response,

life-saving and life-sustaining relief items will be needed. In order to ensure that these supplies reach the most vulnerable people affected by the crisis in a timely and efficient manner additional logistics services are required.

Project Objective(s)

5. Through this Special Operation, WFP will provide logistics augmentation to the Government of the Philippines, and the humanitarian community, in order to prevent gaps and bottlenecks in the humanitarian response. Support will include strategic airlifts, local airlifts, overland road and boat transport, temporary storage and logistics coordination at the national and provincial level.

Project Implementation

6. This Special Operation will have duration of three months. The operation will be adapted and revised as the situation unfolds and further assessment results become available, including the possible provision of additional equipment and logistics common services as required.
7. The following activities will be implemented by WFP to augment to the Government's capacity:
 - a. *Logistics Services:*
 1. Strategic airlift of 50 Metric Tons High Energy Biscuits from the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot in Dubai on behalf of WFP. 30 MT of which are to be delivered ASAP on a charter flight directly into Davao, in Mindanao province; while at the same time 20 MT will be booked on commercial airlines for delivery to Manila.
 2. Local airlift of cargo identified by the Government of the Philippines to be moved from Manila to the affected area, on behalf of the government, or supporting other clusters to deliver life-saving and life-sustaining cargo.
 3. Overland/Road & Boat Transport. In order to meet government requests WFP will organize road and sea transport. If needed, commercial boats will be hired to move cargo from Manila to the affected areas in Mindanao. While at the same time local transport companies will be hired in Mindanao for the forward movement of relief cargo to areas identified within Cagayan de Oro and Iligan cities as well as in neighboring municipalities who have been affected and in need of assistance.
 4. Warehousing. WFP will provide temporary storage tents, office units, equipment, and staff to augment storage capacity as well as to assist in the handling of international bi-lateral donations.
 - b. *Logistics Coordination:* In support of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) WFP will assist in the coordination of the logistics response. Dedicated staff will be made available to lead WFP's logistics response. Coordination of logistics will also help fill any gaps or bottleneck identified in the logistics response.

8. In the short term the activities outlined in this document build on the experience gained during the response to Tropical Storm Ketsana in 2009 and the recent emergency responses led by the government of 2010 and 2011 at a smaller scale. In the medium term, feedback from assessments and needs identified by the Government and the wider humanitarian community in regard to logistics support will define in better detail which services will be most needed. In the long term, the augmented logistics support provided will phase out as the Government of the Philippines and the humanitarian communities meet their own logistics needs.
9. The Country Director of the Philippines will be the fund manager for this Special Operation and the Philippines Finance Officer will be the Allotment Manager. The Country Office will appoint a Logistics Project Manager who will be responsible for the implementation of the activities stated in the project.
10. This Special Operation will last three months, or as long as the Government of Philippines and the humanitarian community need assistance in providing support to those affected by flooding. Humanitarian partners will be encouraged to develop their own logistics response strategies, and guidance can be providing by WFP Logistics by making available shortlists of transporters and/or turnover of facilities like temporary warehouses. Operations will be phased out when gaps and bottlenecks no longer exist.

Project Cost and Benefits

11. The total cost for the activities contained in this project is US\$ 662,055.
12. Due to the fact that services under that Special Operation will be offered to the Government as well as the humanitarian partners at zero cost, the cost savings made by partners will allow additional investment to be made in projects benefiting the affected population. Coordination services will also help prevent overlap in response and identify any potential gaps.
13. This Special Operation intends to prevent and alleviate gaps and bottlenecks in the humanitarian logistics response and provide an uninterrupted supply of life-saving and life-sustaining goods and services to those affected by flooding. It will also enable the humanitarian community to move relief items into the affected area in a more reliable and predictable way, while preventing overlaps in the response.

Monitoring & Evaluation

14. The key performance indicators will be:
 - Number of requests made by the Government for logistics support and met
 - Storage space made available
 - Number of agencies and organizations utilizing logistics services
 - Volume (m³) of cargo moved through logistics common services
15. Operational reports will be provided on a regular basis.

Risk Analysis and Contingency planning

16. A number of risks could impact the implementation of the SO. The main risks identified are presented through the three risk areas (contextual, programmatic and institutional). The subsequent narrative explains the risks and outlines mitigation measures to be taken.
17. Contextual Risks. The security situation in Mindanao, though stable in the areas of operation, might become unpredictable while threats to operations could occur, limiting access to beneficiaries.
18. Programmatic Risks. Given the potential increased needs arising from further flooding, the Special Operation might need to expand and change activities in line with emerging demands from stakeholders. An increase in flood water could result in damage to logistics infrastructure which will require flexible and creative approaches to delivery.
19. Institutional Risks. These include lack of adequate resources to meet the demands of stakeholders and consequent damage to WFP's reputation within the Philippines as a leader in logistics.

RECOMMENDATION

This Special Operation No. 200390 covering the period from December 20th, 2011 to March 19th, 2012 at a total cost to WFP of **US\$ 662,055** is recommended for approval by the Deputy Executive Director for Operations.

APPROVAL

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Ramiro Lopes da Silva
Deputy Executive Director for Operations