



Tropical Storm Sendong 2011

ShelterCluster.org

Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter

REACH ASSESSMENT FACT SHEET #1

26 January 2012



BACKGROUND:

According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), Tropical Storm Sendong entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility as a tropical depression on 15 December and shortly intensified into a tropical storm. As it crossed the Philippines, the storm affected seven regions: IV-B (MIMAROPA), VII (Central Visayas), IX (Zamboanga Peninsula), X (Northern Mindanao), XI (Davao), XIII (Caraga) and ARMM (Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao). Region X **includes the most heavily affected areas of Cagayan de Oro City and Iligan City.**

The Cagayan, Agus and Mandulog rivers rose rapidly in the early hours of 17 December, with fast flowing muddy waters surging over riverbanks and sweeping away buildings from a swathe of land on either side. The rivers' rapid speed and rise - in some areas rising by 3.3 meters in less than an hour - caused devastation more commonly seen from tsunamis, with entire neighborhoods and villages swept away. The flash floods struck in the early hours of the morning, giving residents little warning and killing many people as they slept.

NDRRMC reports, as of 24 January 2012, a total of 1,144,299 affected persons. Specifically, around 81,910 people are displaced – within the capacity of evacuation centers. The remaining 441,022 displaced persons remain in makeshift shelters, with host families, renting of properties, or without access to any shelter. A total of **52,435 houses were damaged** (14,883 totally and 37,552 partially)

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WHY A SHELTER CLUSTER ASSESSMENT?

In 2011, REACH formalized a partnership with the IFRC-led Global Shelter Cluster (GSC) for rapid deployment in natural disaster emergencies, in order to facilitate interagency assessments and mapping activities on behalf of the cluster. Resulting information products are used to enable better planning and coordination by the cluster and its members, and are widely disseminated.

Since the beginning of the crisis, all actors involved in the humanitarian response identified **Shelter issues as major concern**. Indeed, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) immediately identified in its reports huge numbers of totally and partially damaged houses¹. According to OCHA², **priority actions** for the Shelter Cluster include, among others, to **ascertain the number of damaged homes** and to identify viable and adequate shelter solutions.

The Inter-Cluster assessment (MIRA) outlined that **67%** of key informants identified shelters as a problem for their community. Moreover, MIRA Shelter preliminary analysis shows **that it is relevant to further investigate the category of destruction on households**, as this will significantly influence the type of reconstruction and rehabilitation projects.

An inter-agency Shelter Cluster assessment was consequently launched on 22 January 2012.

The assessment will support the revision of the Flash Appeal as well as cluster members in planning and responding to storm-affected communities' needs.

THE REACH APPROACH

The **general objective** of this assessment is to contribute to the humanitarian response for the Sendong storm and flood-affected communities of the Philippines.

The **specific objective** of this assessment is to improve the planning and prioritization for all aid actors involved in shelter and shelter-related activities through better information accessibility in a timely and accurate manner.

The assessment is designed to cover up to **36 barangays** in Cagayan de Oro City and up to **21 barangays** in Iligan City, plus 6 other municipalities in Misamis Oriental and Bukidnon Provinces.

The sample of the assessment is: **4,000** surveyed households and **150** Focus Group Discussions (FGD) with gender balanced key community informants.

The assessment will be implemented between **22 and 28 January 2012** and the final report is due **by 30 January 2012**.

Please acknowledge the following caveats before making any use of the Fact Sheet data:

This **Fact Sheet** covers the assessment period from **22 to 25 January 2012**.

At this stage of the assessment, **Evacuation Centres (ECs)** as well as **Cagayan de Oro (CdO)** barangays were first investigated. ECs and CdO data are therefore over-represented in this snapshot. This will be corrected by the overall assessment report.

Data cleaning is currently in progress. Data has not yet been disaggregated by region.

¹ Totally – 14,883 /Partially – 37,552 as of 26th of January, NDRRMC Sitrep n.47

² Ocha summary report, 12 January 2012

INITIAL FINDINGS

DAMAGE TO HOUSES

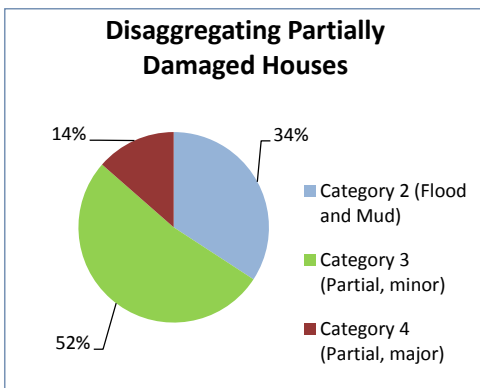
Up to now, Data has been only disaggregated in Totally Damaged and Partially Damaged houses. To better understand the shelter needs, additional categories were created for the Shelter Assessment. This should allow actors to plan and prioritize their response.

Five categories of damage were created:

1. No Damage
2. Floods and Mudflow damage
3. Partial, Minor Damage
4. Partial, Major Damage
5. Destroyed or Washed Away

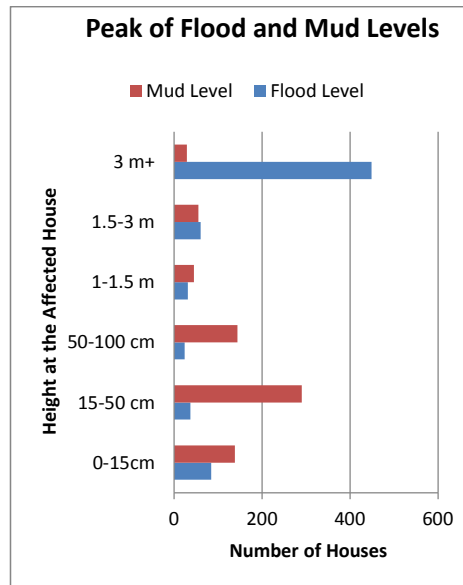
Initial findings show that there are many partially damaged houses, around 70% of all affected households. 30% of the affected households belong to category 5.

Below you may find disaggregated data (categories 2, 3 and 4) of partially damaged houses.



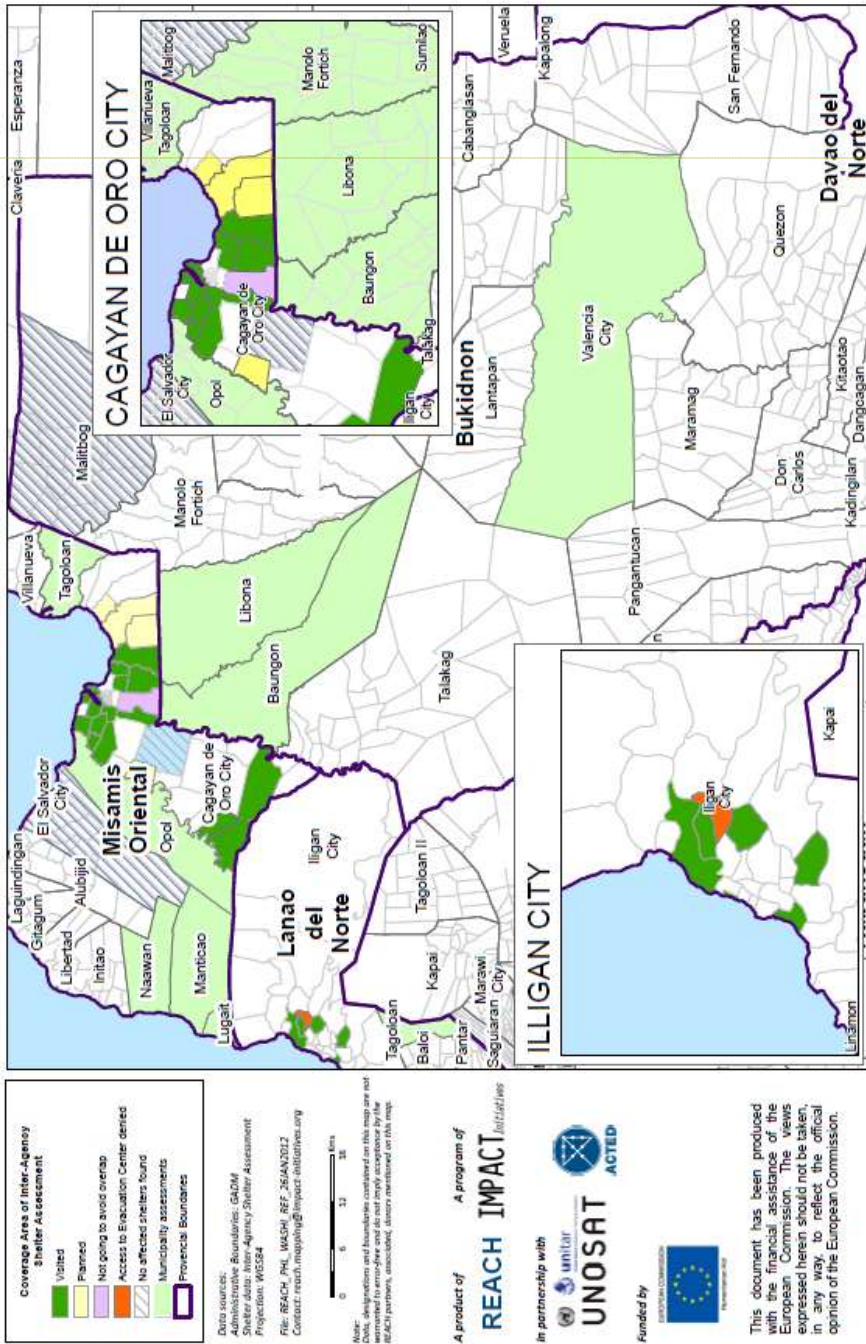
Many of the partially damaged houses are flood/mud damaged. They mainly require debris removal and cleaning, with the remainder having limited structural damage. Only 14% have major damage. It will likely require significant rehabilitation if the household is not relocated due to no building zone regulations.

The initial findings also show that floods and mudflows affected the houses in two different ways.



While flood levels were extremely high in many areas, it is the high mud levels in many areas that caused the most damage for partially affected households. This is relevant especially for Cagayan de Oro municipality where mud literally destroyed thousands of houses as well as damaged many more. Mudflows will require significant cleaning and debris removal although damaged house structure could be rehabilitated.

Iligan City seems to have been mainly affected by fast moving floodwaters that completely destroyed many houses, carrying logs, boulders, and other missiles. Generally speaking, flash floods affected houses are likely to be included in Category 5. Those who survived tended to have no or limited amount of damages. However, at this stage of the assessment, there is not enough data to confirm such an assumption. This will be verified in the final assessment report.



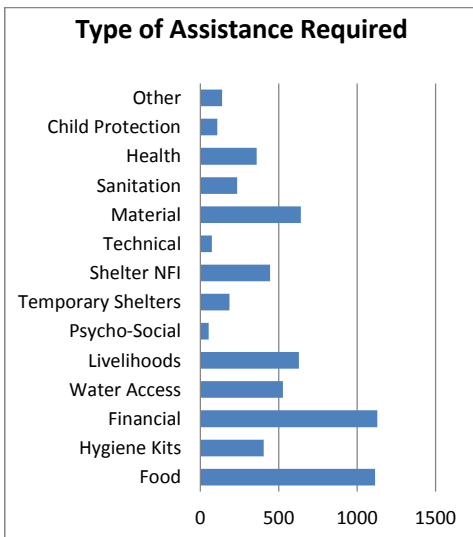
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NEEDS AND GAPS

About **66%** of surveyed households admitted that their **primary source of income had been highly affected** by the disaster, while **23% considered it as slightly affected**. Only 13% do not report any impact on their primary source of income. A better breakdown in terms of the impact of Sendong on sources of income will be available in the full assessment report.

However, the initial findings of the assessment clearly show that it is probable that the majority of affected households' source of income was disrupted by the storm. Their resilience has been undermined; their coping capacity will not be great enough to fully recover from the crisis. Their pre-Sendong livelihood is at stake.

98% of interviewed storm-affected households expressed the **need for humanitarian assistance**. The graph below shows the type of assistance required, divided by sectors:

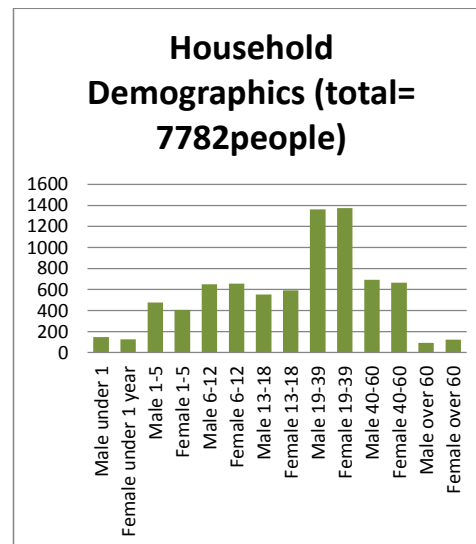


Families mainly indicated food and financial support as the main needs in terms of humanitarian assistance. Financial support was mainly requested to rehabilitate or rebuild their houses. This kind of support is requested especially when the need in terms of rehabilitation, or reconstruction, goes beyond the family's capacity to undertake the work

themselves. Material for houses/shelter is also prevalent in most of the surveys and is requested in terms of in-kind contributions.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND VULNERABILITIES

The initial findings of the assessments indicate that almost 30% of the affected population is below the age of 13. The disaggregation by gender does not show any relevant imbalance between men and women.



When we look at vulnerable group data, **single headed households are the most frequently reported** status of **vulnerability** (more than 70% of the vulnerable population, with the remaining being pregnant/lactating women, disabled people or indigenous people). In that case, gender matters: when reported, **single households** led by a woman seem to double households headed by a man in the surveys

Agencies and Organizations participating in the Shelter Cluster assessment:

ACTED, CRS, DSWD, ERC, IFRC, Impact Initiatives, IOM, Latter Day Saints (LDS), NCSB, OCHA, UNHABITAT, UNOSAT, Xavier University, Xavier University Engineering Resource Centre