



IOM Director General William Lacy Swing visits Roxas City. © IOM 2013 (Photo by Leonard Doyle)

As of 18 November, the Philippines' Department of Social Welfare and Development has estimated that **13 million people have been affected** by Typhoon Haiyan and **over one million homes have been damaged**, more than half of which are reportedly completely destroyed. Currently, **4 million people are displaced** in and around disaster-affected areas. There are **1,587 evacuation centres** hosting 392,470 persons. Many other displacement sites and spontaneous settlements remain to be identified.

Over the weekend, **three convoys of IOM trucks departed for Tacloban** carrying non-food items as a rapid response measure to assist more than 70,000 families. The first convoy of trucks arrived on 16 November with 5,000 tarpaulin sheets. Distribution began

Fast Facts

- IOM convoys arrive in Tacloban, bringing shelter and NFI kits
IOM's Director General visits the Philippines
- IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix tool also rolled out in Roxas
- IOM health team in Roxas conducts joint assessment with WHO, AmeriCares, and local provincial health office

immediately. The other two convoys were expected to arrive late in the evening of 18 November, carrying blankets, shelter repair kits (plastic sheets, toolkits, fixings, corrugated iron sheets), family emergency kits, kitchen kits (cooking pots, cutlery, jerry cans, cups and plates), and chainsaws, to support debris removal. Distribution of NFIs from these two convoys will begin on 19 November.

IOM has also **activated its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) tool in Roxas** to obtain detailed information to assist humanitarian partners in the identification of needs and the provision of relief items at displacement sites. The DTM was earlier rolled out in Tacloban.

In **Roxas**, IOM assessed several evacuation centres. A **rapid assessment highlighted similar severe shortages** in this city as those identified in Tacloban: electricity supply is sporadic; drinking water is largely unavailable; and families are living in temporary shelters amidst the debris. Moreover, large numbers of individuals suffer from untreated wounds, cases of scabies, respiratory diseases, and eczema. In addition, the number of cases of diarrhea is on the rise.

In **Tacloban**, evacuation centres are also overcrowded with poor sanitary conditions that present real health hazards. The **CCCM Cluster will provide site planners to identify new sites for relocation** within the next two weeks, in order to support decongestion efforts intended to be undertaken by the authorities.

In parallel, IOM is participating in the shelter assessments in other disaster-affected areas.

Since 10 November, a daily **average of 5,000 individuals have been moving out of Tacloban** towards northern Samar as well as to Cebu via Ormoc. People are spending the night camped out in the terminal in order to queue up for seats in the ferries departing from Tacloban.

IOM's Director General William Lacy Swing arrived in Roxas on Monday, 18 November. The joint visit with WFP Executive Director, Ertharin Cousin, enabled them to witness displacement conditions in some of the evacuation centres.

The **IOM health team has started its activities in Capiz**. A health needs assessment, conducted jointly with WHO, AmeriCares, and local provincial health office representatives, was conducted in the towns of Pontevedra and Pilar – two of the most-affected areas in Capiz. Visits were made to damaged rural health units, *barangay* (village) health stations and evacuation centers, including the Bailan District Hospital. The Pilar Rural Health Unit was the only center found to continue functioning since the 11 other village health posts, which served a catchment population of some 43,000 people, have been destroyed. IOM is in discussions with local government authorities on provision of support to target sites in Pilar and Pontevedra to repair and equip damaged rural health posts, and to support local health referrals to the nearest district hospital.

IOM teams are currently deployed in Roxas, Cebu, Ormoc, Tacloban, and Guiuan.

For photos and more information, please go to <http://philippineresponse.iom.int/>.

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