

Objective

- The mission was organized following a request from the Philippines Government/UNDAC in Roxas in order to evaluate the need for potential support, which could be made available to the humanitarian community operating in Panay Island.

Highlights

Humanitarian Presence:

- A Coordination Hub has been set up to coordinate the humanitarian response in Roxas. The Office is located in Capiz Government building in the Main Square of Roxas. Organisations are invited to register there with OCHA.
- So far approximately 15 organisations (including WVI, ACF, Save the Children, UNICEF, IOM, WHO, OCHA, MSF) are present on the island mainly conducting assessments.
- The Philippine and Canadian Military are present in Roxas. The Canadian Military have deployed 1 helicopter for their operations.
- A number of organisations are shipping in humanitarian supplies either from Manila or Cebu, some are reporting issues with their pipeline.

Infrastructure:

- Electricity is an issue on the whole island. On the western coastal area up to 75% of the area is without power and is heavily reliant on generators. Mobile communications are also not functional in the majority of the Island. There is no reliable Internet or GSM services on the East cost of the island. Data services, Internet and mobile connections are only available in the cities of Roxas and Iloilo.
- The road network is viable, no major access constraints: on some stretches the damaged power lines and fallen trees are causing delays – mostly in the form of a single lane for all traffic.
- The Roxas airport has a 6,000 feet long runway. In general very few flights are coming in. Iloilo airport is operational.
- Organisations have reported limited access to road transportation Currently trucks are being used for collections of debris thus limiting the humanitarian operations.
- The port of Culasy on the western side of Roxas is operational.
- Lack of /access to fuel could potentially become a major bottleneck.

Immediate Needs

- The type of relief items needed is shelter, wash, health and food supplements.
- The number of people in need is between 500,000 and 300,000.
- Gaps to be addressed urgently are logistics coordination (including Civ/Mil) and provision of information regarding logistics capacity.
- The lack of storage in Roxas needs to be addressed as organisations are reporting difficulties.

Action Plan

- A technical expert will be deployed to assess the gaps and needs of the logistics capacity of Panay Island.