

LASAC SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) NO. 37

PROGRAMME TITLE	Taal Volcano Eruption, Batangas Province, PH.
PROGRAMME LOCATION	Province of Batangas
DATE COVERED	February 01, 2020 (as of 6:00 pm)
SITREP NUMBER	37
SUBMITTED BY	Lipa Archdiocesan Social Action Commission, Inc.

I. Situation Overview

A. Taal Volcano Bulletin

Activity in the Main Crater in the past 24 hours has been characterized by wispy to weak emission of white to dirty white steam-laden plumes 50 meters tall that drifted southwest. Sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emission was measured at an average of 65 tonnes/day. The Taal Volcano Network recorded one hundred eighty-two (182) volcanic earthquakes including one (1) low-frequency event and **one (1) harmonic tremor that lasted 3 minutes**. These earthquakes signify magmatic activity beneath the Taal edifice that could lead to eruptive activity at the Main Crater.

The following are among the variables and movements observed and recorded for the past nine (9) days by the Malasakit para sa Batangas command center in coordination with state seismologists:

Date	Volcanic Earthquake	Harmonic Tremor	Tremor	Low-Frequency Earthquake	SO ₂ Emission
Jan. 24	486	0	20	4	224tons
Jan. 25	420	0	3	11	409tons
Jan. 26	89	0	4	1	87tons
Jan. 27	46	0	1	0	≠
Jan. 28	30	0	0	0	64tons
Jan. 29	31	0	1	1	64tons
Jan. 30	110	1	24	2	≠
Jan. 31	56	0	13	0	65tons
Feb. 01	182	3	0	1	65tons
TREND	↑	↑	↓	↑	↔

Alert Level 3 is maintained over Taal Volcano. DOST-PHIVOLCS reminds the public that sudden steam-driven and even weak phreatomagmatic explosions, volcanic earthquakes, ashfall, and lethal volcanic gas expulsions can still occur and threaten areas within Taal

Volcano Island and nearby lakeshores. DOST-PHIVOLCS recommends that entry into the Taal Volcano Island as well as into areas over Taal Lake and communities west of the island within a seven (7) km radius from the Main Crater must be strictly prohibited. Local government units are advised to assess areas outside the seven-kilometer radius for damages and road accessibilities and to strengthen preparedness, contingency and communication measures in case of renewed unrest.

People are also advised to observe precautions due to ground displacement across fissures, frequent ashfall and minor earthquakes. Communities beside active river channels particularly where ash from the main eruption phase has been thickly deposited should increase vigilance when there is heavy and prolonged rainfall since the ash can be washed away and form lahars along the channels. Civil aviation authorities must advise pilots to avoid flying close to the volcano as airborne ash and ballistic fragments from sudden explosions and wind-remobilized ash may pose hazards to aircraft. DOST-PHIVOLCS is closely monitoring Taal Volcano's activity and any new significant development will be immediately communicated to all stakeholders.

Records show that there is an impending explosive eruption and that unrest has not yet ceased, and the threat of a hazardous eruption is still highly probable. Additionally, this category remains to be classified as **high level of volcanic unrest**, hence, the danger zone is considered expanded up to seven (7) kilometers from the main crater. Local government authorities have asserted that the recent permission granted for return is an **OPTION**. It is therefore necessary to reiterate that residents must evacuate within an hour should alert levels be raised to category number 4.

B. Rapid Assessment

- There were several reported incidents of mendicancy (the practice of begging) in Talisay, Batangas – mendicants and a few residents are alleging the inadequate prepositioning of food and non-food items. Upon validation with the local government, there are enough food items and a supplementary supply of both food and non-food items shall be prepositioned in coordination with the local parish of San Guillermo, along with the LASAC and Caritas Manila.
- There has been an overhaul and updating of the consolidation system which makes efficient the storing and banking of data for information purposes. Consequently, the release of figures

as regards affected individuals and families is temporary on-hold, except for the consolidated information via DROMIC Report from the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO) as of today:

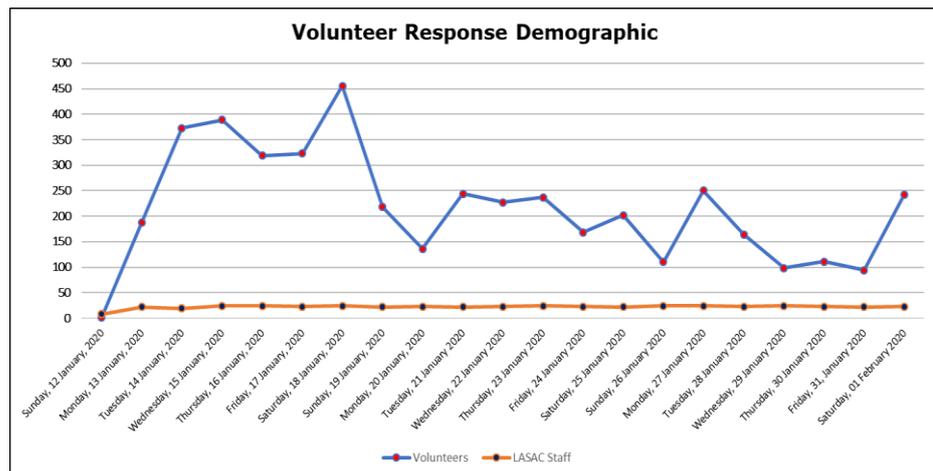
INSIDE EVACUATION CENTERS			
Families		Persons	
Before	Now	Before	Now
54,192	5,874	203,543	20,794

Source: PSWDO Batangas, DROMIC 2 Report (02/01/2020) as of 5:00pm.

OUTSIDE EVACUATION CENTERS			
Families		Persons	
Before	Now	Before	Now
60,363	42,216	221,766	154,381

C. Volunteer Management

- *Increase in Volunteer Response.* A drastic upward trend was recorded this evening, with 242 persons in attendance as compared to yesterday's 98 registered volunteers. The increase in trend has been directly correlated with the training of trainer's for data management, along with the influx of volunteers from the Archdiocesan Youth Commission and the Ministry for the Youth.



A contingent from the self-help groups (SHeG) of Lingap Pangarap ng mga Paslit Center, Inc. (LLPCI) of Batangas City also added to the increased volunteer response today.

II. Response

A. Incoming and Outgoing Relief

- In-kind relief has a monetized value of ₱27,400,431.80 while cash donations amounted to ₱9,937,372.16.
- A total number of 102,282 families comprised of 484,562 individuals benefitted from the humanitarian efforts and relief services of the Archdiocese for four hundred two (402) evacuation centers all over the province. Further categorized are the following:

Evacuation Category	Individuals	Families
Local Government	164,709	37,885
Archdiocese of Lipa	287,896	57,446
Interfaith and Interreligious	4,315	1,301
Private Organizations	27,642	5,650
TOTAL	484,562	102,282

B. Healthcare and Psychosocial Intervention

- Now on its second day, the National Acupuncture Detoxification Association (NADA) of the Philippines, in consortium with the Commission of Healthcare performed a free ear acupuncture therapy session to our volunteers in the following locus:
 - Ibaan, Batangas (36)
 - Malasakit Para sa Batangas Command Center (50)
 - National Shrine and Parish of St. Padre Pio (07)

TOTAL (93)

C. Liturgy and Prayer

- A Eucharistic Celebration was led by Rev Fr. Jajo Culla at 11:00 in the morning today, concelebrated by Rev. Fr. Bladimir Calingasan and Rev. Fr. Jayson Siapco who served as homilist.

Instructing the faithful, Fr. Siapco renewed the call to faith, further reflecting that faith is dynamic and that a believer is always a man of action and prayer – not of extremes but of balance – for virtue

is found in the balance and that Christian life is enriched by fear of the Lord which is the prequel to wisdom.

During these troubled times, the faithful is ever reminded to never lose hope because the Lord never abandons his people. In this same vein, the volunteers were exhorted to be like the Father – to never abandon the call of service.

- A Taize Prayer was offered by the Archdiocesan Youth Commission this afternoon at the Verdure, in front of the Titular Patron of the Archdiocese of Lipa, Our Lady of Caysasay.

III. Coordination

A. Internal

- The Ministry for the Youth spearheaded by Rev. Fr. Richard Hernandez, through the Archdiocesan Youth Commission has volunteered for the additional manpower along with a simple prayer (Taize) participated by young and adults alike.
- The Ministry for Family and Life spearheaded by Rev. Fr. Dale Baretto Ko called for a coordination meeting at the Auditorium of St. Francis de Sales Major Seminary. The agenda presented were the need to organize family counselors along with the monitoring of possible abuses against children, youth and the elderly.

B. External

- The Couples for Christ, Answering the Cry of the Poor (ANCOP) Global Mission Foundation, Inc., is consistent with their thrust to support the networking and information cluster of the Malasakit para sa Batangas Command Center, specifically the fulfillment of duties in line with correspondence, promotion and advocacy.

IV. Pledges and Contributions

- The Catholic Women's League (CWL) Lucena Chapter has donated a generous amount of food and non-food items this morning. The following are the stipulated categories:

- 100pcs of pails
 - 100pks of toiletries
 - 100pcs. of plastic brooms
 - 100pcs. of pitchers
 - 100pcs. of biscuits
 - 1000pcs. of empty sacks
 - 150pairs. of cutleries
 - 25pcs of pillows
- The Team Random Warriors (TRW) along with the Mindanao State University, CFC Global Foundation, Inc and the Association of San Pioquinto Teachers have also donated assorted food and non-food items for home-based evacuees.
 - In response to the expression of support and intent to help, along with the needs of the survivors and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the Taal relief efforts and early recovery phase, we encourage the donation of the following items:
 1. Shovel, digging bars, brooms and sacks for ashes
 2. Pressure washers, water filters and water hose
 3. N-95 masks and surgical masks
 4. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) items
 5. Medicines (anti-hypertension, cough remedies, antihistamine, anti-vertigo)

V. Media and Communications

The Emergency Response and Integration Center (ERIC) conducted a training for the social services ministry volunteers of twenty-nine (29) parishes all over the Archdiocese. The database facility that was launched this morning intends to provide a communication and coordination platform between and among affected population, stakeholders and good citizens extending help.

All consolidated data therein are intended for humanitarian purposes only, hence, security protocols are put in place to ensure that the provisions in the Data Privacy Act are upheld. The preliminary influx of data shall be received on February 07, 2020 (Friday).

Only official advisories from the government, the Church and validated information from responders and workers on the field shall be included and posted in the system.

VI. Photos



Volunteers continue to repack and sort the assorted goods from generous donors and stakeholders.

The number of volunteers from REY79 also assisted in the distribution of donations for home-based evacuees.



Ms. Rachel Polancos gives a welcome message for the volunteers and enumerators from different parishes who will augment the information and data needed by the system.

VII. Key Contacts

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