

## LASAC SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) NO. 12

<b>PROGRAMME TITLE</b>	Taal Volcano Eruption, Batangas Province, PH.
<b>PROGRAMME LOCATION</b>	Province of Batangas
<b>DATE COVERED</b>	January 18, 2020 (as of 10:00 am)
<b>SITREP NUMBER</b>	12
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b>	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 steady steam emission and infrequent weak explosions that generated white to dirty white ash plumes 50 to 600 meters tall and dispersed ash southwest of the Main Crater.

Sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emission was measured at an average of 360 tonnes/day yesterday, consistent with weak plume activity at the Main Crater.

The Philippine Seismic Network plotted a total of six hundred sixty-six (666) volcanic earthquakes since 1:00 PM, January 12, 2020. One hundred seventy-four (174) of these registered at magnitudes M1.2 – M4.1 and were felt at Intensities I – V. Since 5:00 AM on January 17, 2020 until 5:00 AM today, there were thirty-two (32) volcanic earthquakes plotted, registered at magnitudes M1.5-M3.3. The Taal Volcano Network recorded eight hundred seventy-six (876) volcanic earthquakes including six (6) tremor events and twenty (20) low-frequency earthquakes. Such intense seismic activity likely signifies continuous magmatic intrusion beneath the Taal edifice, which may lead to further eruptive activity.

**Alert Level 4 remains in effect over Taal Volcano.** This means that hazardous explosive eruption is possible within hours to days. DOST-PHIVOLCS strongly reiterates total evacuation of Taal Volcano Island and high-risk areas as

identified in the hazard maps within the 14-km radius from Taal Main Crater and along the Pansipit River Valley where fissuring has been observed. Residents around Taal Volcano are advised to guard against the effects of heavy and prolonged ashfall. Civil aviation authorities must advise pilots to avoid the airspace around Taal Volcano as airborne ash and ballistic fragments from the eruption column pose hazards to aircraft. DOST-PHIVOLCS is continually monitoring the eruption and will update all stakeholders of further developments.

## **B. Rapid Assessment**

- *Children are most vulnerable.* The region, extremely impacted by the ongoing unrest of Taal Volcano, considers children (43%) were the most vulnerable to natural disasters among the region's population. Second among the most vulnerable are the elderly (38%) while their persons with disability ranks third (18%) when it comes to risks and vulnerability.
  
- *Government Advisory on Relief Services for Families.* Persons and families outside evacuation centers are properly documented and given relief services after properly filling-up and complying with stipulated requirements and basic documentation. The provincial government urges the affected population to sign-up in the prescribed online portals of the Batangas Public Information Office.
  
- *Request for portalets and water filters.* In consideration of pro-environment measures and sanitation, the use of water filters is meant to replace overconsumption of plastic-packaged mineral water, along with the single use of plastic. Portalets are sought in order to relieve survivors, especially the elderly, without having to spend time walking far, along with the prevention of the spread of unwanted diseases caused by unsanitary toilet use.

### **C. Volunteer Management**

- *Volunteer Response.* The emergency response team of LASAC was able to orient and deploy one hundred twenty-two (122) volunteers, having thirteen (13) enlisted as roving teams. There were also eighty-six (86) seminarians coming from St. Francis de Sales Major and Theological Seminaries.
- *Deployment of Teams.* There were two hundred one (201) enrolled and deployed psychological first aid practitioners (PFAers) that were duly supervised and spearheaded by volunteers and professionals from the Psychological Association of the Philippines.

## **II. Response**

### **A. Incoming and Outgoing Relief**

- In-kind relief has a monetized value of ₱5,431,857.00 while cash donations amounted to ₱3,005,964.00.
- A total number of 162,580 food and non-food items were disbursed and shared for over three hundred forty-seven (347) evacuation centers all over the province. Further categorized are the following:
  - 101,126 food items and bottled water
  - 13,605 medicines for various needs
  - 47,849 non-food items (WASH, blankets and mats)

### **B. Psychosocial intervention, liturgy and prayer**

- *Paraliturgy.* A morning prayer was offered this morning at the Msgr. Gaviola Chamber which serves as the logistics and relief section of the command center.

## **III. Coordination**

- The Lipa Archdiocesan Social Action Commission, Inc. is working closely with the Provincial Government of Batangas, specifically with its disaster risk reduction and management agency and its social welfare and development office. There are a total of 54,290 families or 232,349 individuals in evacuation. There are already 451 evacuation centers as listed by the PDRRMO.

- The Department of Agriculture (DA) released a bulletin apprising the public that the damage and losses due to the Taal volcano eruption have reached ₱ 3.06 billion affecting 15,790 hectares and 1,923 animal head. According to the report, out of the 6,000 fish cages installed around Taal Lake, there were an estimated amount of ₱ 1.6 billion losses for the culture of tilapia and some bangus species. Thus, making fisheries the most affected commodity in terms of damage and losses.

#### **IV. Pledges and Contributions**

- *Urgent needs of the survivor.* Drinking water (packaged mineral water), clean water (as well as the water purifiers, medicines, rice and cooked food and dishes for the soup kitchen, face masks (N95), hygiene kits, cleaning kits for cleaning mud, power jet spray hose nozzles (pressure washer), sanitary napkins, diapers for baby and elderly people, undergarments, foldable beds and mats, temporary shelters, generator, emergency lamps and flashlights With over one hundred forty-five (145,000) survivors, close to almost 35,000 families in evacuation,. Immediate relief assistance in the municipality of Balayan, San Nicolas, Sta. Teresita and Cities of Batangas, Tanauan, Lipa, and Sto. Tomas are crucial due to the large number of evacuees.
- *Pledges of kind-hearted institutions.* The Diocese of Cubao pledged to initiate second collections on Sunday Masses to be remitted for the purpose of relief assistance in the Archdiocese of Lipa and the Diocese of Imus. Shell Philippines pledged 3,000,000 pesos while NASSA/Caritas pledged two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) pesos.
- *Let us all DREAM.* LASAC has received Disaster Risk and Emergency Assistance Machines (DREAM) from WeGen Energy Philippines that will augment emergency lamps, powering the evacuation centers. In line with that, Globe Telecom Philippines will be providing free text messaging and calls service for volunteers duly enrolled by LASAC.

## V. Media and Communications

The Lipa Archdiocesan Social Action Commission, Inc. (LASAC) continue to provide updates of the humanitarian response, entitled, **"Malasakit para sa Batangas"** through its social media accounts and website, while coordinating with the social communications commission of the archdiocese, along with other local and national broadcasting system.

## VI. Photos



The children evacuees in Polytechnic University of the Philippines - Sto. Tomas received a psychosocial support from our Psychological First-Aid (PFA) providers. Our volunteers conducted games to children to make them feel like they're home. (Photos taken with the permission of the parents of the children)



## VII. Key Contacts

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