

# Disaster Response Plan

## MAYON VOLCANO ERUPTION 2018

(as of 25 January 2018)



### 1.0 Introduction

To date, Mayon Volcano is on Alert Level 4 which means imminent hazardous eruption is possible within days according to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS). For the last two days, PHIVOLCS reported “increased seismic unrest, lava fountaining, and summit explosions” of the volcano, with the danger zone extended to eight kilometer-radius from the summit, and even nine kilometers to some areas directly hit by recent ashfalls. Since the Provincial Government of Albay has declared a state of calamity on 16 January 2018, the total affected families had almost doubled.

The Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office reported a total of 60,564 persons / 15,468 families in 46 barangays from 5 municipalities / 3 cities in Albay province. They are temporarily staying in 58 evacuation centers (41 are schools), with more or less 1,000 families staying outside the evacuation centers. Affected learners are 21,479. These numbers are increasing depending on the Government’s declaration of Danger Zones.

From January 13 and after more than a week since the crisis started, no casualties or damage to houses has been reported. Government agencies, local government units and affected population particularly those staying in evacuation centers had expressed need for food, non-food items, water, WASH facilities, child-friendly spaces and temporary learning spaces. Identified health issues were respiratory illnesses (coughs and colds and acute respiratory infections) mainly due to ashfalls.

### 2.0 Needs assessment

EDUCO had continuously coordinated with government agencies (i.e., Department of Health (DOH), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Education (DepEd) and the affected local government units (LGUs)). On January 17, EDUCO conducted a rapid needs assessment of its covered municipalities (i.e., Daraga, Camalig, Guinobatan and Ligao) and Legaspi City, particularly visiting the schools designated as evacuation centers and coordinating with its partner LGUs. Among the identified needs and gaps are the following:

#### Education

- Disruption of regular classes due to:
  - classrooms being utilized as evacuation centers

- displacement of school children

## **Water Sanitation and Hygiene**

- Lack of access to potable water
- Lack of access to sanitary toilets
- Lack of access to personal hygiene supplies

## **Health and nutrition**

- No breastfeeding area
- Lack of food
- Congested area
- Effects of ashfall
- Lack of protective kits for infants

## **Child Protection**

- Unsupervised children
- Lack of space and privacy exposing children to potential abuse

## **Shelter and Non-Food Items**

- Lack of access to Household kits (kitchen utensils and beddings)

## **Coordination/Camp management**

- Need more efficient coordination system for Camp Management

## **3.0 EDUCO Response**

The local government unit of Albay projected the current crisis to last until 2 – 3 months, basing from past eruptions of Mayon Volcano. EDUCO therefore planned to implement an initial 3-month disaster response to start as soon as resources are made available, and on the 4<sup>th</sup> month commenced with an early recovery and rehabilitation interventions (with capacity building component) up to one year.

### **Area selection**

EDUCO will prioritize the affected schools and barangays in its covered municipalities (i.e., Daraga, Camalig, Guinobatan and Ligao). EDUCO's Emergency Response Team, in consultation/coordination with its partner LGUs and concerned government agencies, will assess and then prioritize the schools and barangays to be covered for disaster response and its succeeding interventions. Depending on resource availability and results of coordination work with government agencies, EDUCO will prioritize from among its identified areas to be covered.

As in previous disaster responses, EDUCO prefers to work with its partner schools and barangays with populations that are least served or where wide gaps in terms of provision of services to children and their families exist.

## Proposed interventions

The emergency response is planned for a period of 3 months, targeted to commence on the last week of January to 30 April 2018. These interventions were based on the priority needs identified during the rapid needs assessment, from the continuing coordination work with concerned government agencies and LGUs as well as the recurring problems in designated evacuation centers. To keep the disaster plan relevant, the priorities will remain flexible as the situation in the field changes rapidly. EDUCO's bottom line is to support appropriate interventions that can make significant contributions in the lives of the most affected children and their families.

### A. Education

#### Components

#### Description

##### *Emergency phase*

1.1 Setting up of Temporary Learning Spaces in Schools Designated as Evacuation Centers

EDUCO will support the setting up of temporary learning spaces to complement efforts by the DepEd and LGUs. In previous emergencies, EDUCO provided materials while the LGU and DepEd mobilized the community for labor and additional material support.

1.2 Provision of Psychological first aid to Teachers

Teachers who were also survivors will undergo psychological first aid. EDUCO will mobilize the trained facilitators of the Provincial/Municipal Social Welfare and Development Offices and the Department of Education personnel and professional volunteers to conduct the sessions.

When necessary, additional teachers and daycare workers will also be trained to conduct psychosocial sessions for children.

### B. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

#### Components

#### Description

##### *Emergency phase*

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 2.1 Provision of Essential Hygiene kit           | Hygiene kits will be provided to children and their families. The kit contains bath and laundry soaps, toothpastes, toothbrushes, sanitary pads, <i>malong</i> (traditional tube skirt for multi-purpose use), bath towels and other items good for a family of six members and estimated to last for one month. |
| 2.2 Safe Water, Sanitation and hygiene promotion | Water, Sanitation and Hygiene promotion sessions will be conducted to go with the distribution of hygiene kits and water kits.   |

## C. Child Protection

| Components   | Description  |
|--|--|
| <b>Emergency phase</b>                                       |  |
| 3.1 Setting up of Child-friendly spaces (CFS)                | <p>Tents will be set-up and designated as child-friendly spaces. These will serve as venues for providing psychosocial support through play, recreation, learning and social activities. CFS kits will also be provided containing age and culturally appropriate play materials such as: jump, ropes, books, toys, art and craft supplies, and board games.</p> <p>Psychosocial sessions will be conducted primarily for children and caregivers. These sessions will be conducted by trained child development workers called CFS volunteers.</p> <p>This will also account for missing, separated and unaccompanied children to be referred to the Department of Social Welfare and Development for reunification with the families and appropriate services.</p> |
| 3.2 Development, Distribution and Promotion of IEC materials | Various awareness raising activities in different forms will be conducted on potential child abuse and gender-based issues. The referral system flowcharts and reporting of missing, separated and unaccompanied children will be set up in public and evacuation places.  |
| 3.3 Assistance to unaccompanied and separated children       | Unaccompanied and separated children will be referred to the Department of Social Welfare and Development for reunification with the families and appropriate services including referral to other organizations for support.  |

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## D. Health and nutrition

| Components  | Description   |
|---|---|
| <b><i>Emergency phase</i></b>                           |   |
| 4.1 Promotion of Exclusive breastfeeding (EBF)          | EDUCO will support community awareness-raising campaigns to promote exclusive breastfeeding and advocate against the use of infant formulas. It will also encourage and promote schemes where orphaned infants and babies can be breastfed by other lactating mothers.  |
| 4.2 Community awareness raising on health and nutrition | EDUCO will support continuing awareness raising activities on proper nutrition and young child feeding practices. Schemes like “Pabasa sa Nutrisyon”, preparation and consumption of micro-nutrient powders provided by the government, health maintenance measures/activities for adults at the evacuation centers, and other related activities will be introduced or strengthened. |
| 4.3 Provision of Infant kit                             | Educo will provide infant kit to infants at the evacuation center to protect them from colds.   |
| 4.4 Provision of Basic household kit with face mask     | Educo will augment the basic household needs of families at the Evacuation Centers by providing: beddings, cooking utensils, rechargeable flashlights.<br>To protect children and their families from the harmful effects of ash fall, face masks will also be provided.  |

### Delivery mechanisms and strategies

#### Maximizing children and community participation

Where appropriate, EDUCO will maximize children and community participation in the implementation of the project, on a voluntary basis. They will not be considered as recipients only. Instead, they will be encouraged to participate in the preparation, distribution proper and getting community feedback on how to improve delivery of services.

More importantly, children, beneficiaries and barangay leaders will take part in developing criteria for selecting and prioritizing beneficiaries for the different interventions. Their participation will help them develop a feeling of ownership over the response effort and regain some sense of self-worth and dignity. Decisions related to beneficiary selection for all

interventions will be made in a participatory and transparent manner to avoid creating potential conflicts between the communities and EDUCO.

EDUCO will support local government units or the local disaster risk reduction and management councils by helping them with tools and technical support to systematize information management and coordination particularly on children's concerns, continuing needs assessments, and other gaps that may be identified.

### **Coordination**

Coordination mechanisms for this response is not considered a big challenge considering EDUCO's familiarity with the affected areas and having worked with concerned government agencies and the affected LGUs for the past ten years.

EDUCO has also been actively participating in various coordination meetings particularly with the provincial government units, Department of Education, Department of Social Welfare and Development, and other relevant agencies. Likewise, being a convener of the Bicol Children Network, EDUCO is working closely with Civil Society Organizations engaged with children based in the region. EDUCO is also a member of ChildFund Alliance where it has been coordinating with for possible partnership and resource mobilization since the emergency situation arose.

### **Working in partnerships**

As part of its standard disaster response procedures, EDUCO coordinates closely with the Department of Health, Department of Education and the Department of Social Welfare and Development. EDUCO has existing MoUs with these government agencies and has proven partnership not only in development work but also in the recent typhoon Nina disaster response in the provinces of Albay and Camarines Sur.

## **4.0 Resource implications**

### **Human resources**

#### **Frontline staffing**

During the distribution of kits and conduct of awareness campaigns, EDUCO will deploy four teams, composed of at least four people for each covered municipality. Three full time Project Officers will be contracted, and supervised by a full time but seconded regular staff ERT Coordinator. The other members of the team will be the regular staff Project Officers who will support the full time ERT members per schedule. They will be implementing the project in close coordination with the Department of Education, Department of Social Welfare and Development and concerned local government units at the provincial, municipal and barangay levels.

EDUCO may decide to hire additional people. In this emergency phase, three Project Officers will be hired to augment the other regular staff that will be part of the Emergency Response Team.

## Technical support

The Technical Specialists for DRRM, Child Protection, Education, Governance, and Monitoring Evaluation and Learning will provide support to all teams. Together with the Program Development and Quality Manager, they will represent EDUCO in cluster and other inter-agency coordination meetings. For additional technical expertise, EDUCO may source out externally. Additional technical backstopping may also be requested from the Head Office, if need arises.

## Budget needed (Emergency Phase)

The total budget for the emergency phase of the response amounts to Ps. 11,050,197(USD 221,004 / Euro 181,150.77). This does not include budget for early recovery and rehabilitation interventions, the feasibility and relevance of this component still to be validated in the coming months.

| Sector                       | Philippine Peso      | US Dollar            | Euro                 |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Education                    | 1,745,000            | 34,900.00            | 28,606.56            |
| Water Sanitation and Hygiene | 5,501,500            | 110,030.00           | 90,188.52            |
| Child Protection             | 1,525,000            | 30,500.00            | 25,000.00            |
| Health and Nutrition         | 908,997              | 18,180.00            | 14,901.59            |
| Mobilization Cost            | 204,200              | 4,084.00             | 3,347.00             |
| Personnel Cost               | 852,000              | 17,040.00            | 13,967.21            |
| Operations and Admin Cost    | 313,500              | 6,270.00             | 5,139.00             |
| <b>Totals (in Pesos)</b>     | <b>11,050,197.00</b> | <b>221,004.00</b>    | <b>181,150.77</b>    |
|                              |                      | <b>US\$ @ Ps. 50</b> | <b>Euro @ Ps. 61</b> |

## 5.0 Risk Management

Except for the threat posed by the Mayon Volcano eruption, EDUCO does not see major risk factors in the target areas. All staff that will be deployed will be properly oriented and reminded regularly about maintaining EDUCO's good relationship with these communities. This

is how EDUCO deals with the same risk in its regular program areas in the provinces of Sorsogon and Camarines Sur.

EDUCO will be vigilant in dealing with some politicians who may interfere in the implementation of the project. EDUCO will employ participatory processes of beneficiary selection and delivery mechanisms. All staff will strictly observe the existing security protocols and strictly adhere to the “Do No Harm” and “Safety First” principles. Likewise, the Child Safeguarding Policy and the Humanitarian Workers Code of Conduct will be followed.

## **6.0 Communications and Visibility Plan**

The communications and visibility plan is aimed at raising the profile of EDUCO as a humanitarian and development organization that is operational in the Bicol region. The plan also intends to bolster EDUCO’s identity as an organization known for its holistic and rights-based approach to humanitarian and development programming.

### Media

EDUCO will participate in the following media and communication activities involving humanitarian interventions:

- participate in media conferences
- provide media advisories
- feature articles on EDUCO’s emergency response

### Visibility

Members of EDUCO’s response team will wear shirts with EDUCO logo, as much as possible. Other visibility materials such as stickers, streamers, standees, banners, posters, etc. shall be used to identify EDUCO’s activities.

EDUCO will actively participate in coordination meetings and similar venues to be visible and advocate for children-centered humanitarian response.

## **7.0 Monitoring Evaluation Learning and Accountability**

EDUCO puts premium on accountability and shared responsibility in monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL). All stakeholders will be engaged at different levels in MEL for improved accountability and ownership.



Results of Rapid Needs Assessment and data gathered from different concerned agencies and LGUs will serve as baseline information and to provide bases for measuring outputs and if possible, outcomes of interventions. A participatory assessment will be conducted to measure the outcome of the intervention.