COOPERATION ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND DISASTER RELIEF IN THE ASIA PACIFIC: THE CASE OF TYPHOOON HAIYAN

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JUST HOW STRONG WAS TYPHOON HAIYAN?

- Strongest tropical cyclone at landfall
- Maximum winds: 235 kph
- Gustiness: 275
- Duration: 6-9 November 2013
- Most affected areas: Provinces of Leyte and Samar; City of Tacloban in Leyte
SCALE OF DEVASTATION

- 6,300 people dead
- 23,869 persons injured
- Affected 3,424,953 families, 16,078,181 persons
- Totally damaged 489,163 houses, partially damaged 595,149
NOVEMBER 2013
WHAT WERE THE RESPONSES?

- ASEAN

Through the ASEAN Coordinating Center for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Center):

- Monitoring the storm prior to landfall

- Activating the Disaster Emergency Logistics System for ASEAN (DELSA)

- First to establish emergency communication lines between local governments and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC)

- ASEAN Countries Provided almost 7 Million USD in cash as aid
DATA ON FOREIGN AID

PLEDGED VS RECEIVED

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<th>Pledged</th>
<th>Received</th>
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DATA ON FOREIGN AID (2)

FOREIGN AID PLEDGED:

PHP 73,307,438,834.36
(USD 1,643,038,277.66)

TOTAL CASH PLEDGED:

PHP 45,109,273,248.49
(USD 1,011,033,311.26)

TOTAL NON-CASH PLEDGES:

PHP 28,198,165,585.87
(USD 632,004,966.40)

FOREIGN AID RECEIVED:

PHP 17,233,297,910.67
(USD 386,249,588.96)

TOTAL CASH RECEIVED BY GOVERNMENT:

PHP 1,202,312,574.78
(USD 26,947,409.61)

TOTAL NON-CASH RECEIVED BY GOVERNMENT:

PHP 1,269,787,369.01
(USD 28,459,720.94)

TOTAL RECEIVED BY NGOs, MULTILATERALS AND OTHERS:

PHP 14,761,197,966.88
(USD 330,842,458.41)

Note: 1 USD = PHP 44.617
Source: Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
LESSONS LEARNED:

- The importance of information
- Foreign aid is in no short supply in the Asia Pacific
- No matter how massive, successful efforts at humanitarian assistance and disaster relief are also contingent on domestic politics
- Setting-up of accountability mechanisms regarding foreign aid at the regional level could also be explored
- Sea Lanes of Communication (SLOCs) can be used for cooperation rather than divisiveness during disaster response and humanitarian assistance
Thank you very much!