

Background

Super Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) made landfall in the Philippines last Nov 8 and did not hold back in causing widespread grief and devastation. With strong winds and a storm surge that collapsed infrastructure, cut power and communication, exhausted supplies and took away thousands of lives, the government has declared the country under a state of national calamity. The public and private sectors, the Filipinos and the international community, are coming together to turn this calamity into one of the country's biggest staging of Bayanihan, heroism and hope.



Since its establishment in 2003, GK has been at the frontlines of disaster relief and rebuilding efforts. More importantly, however, GK has spent the past ten years building peaceful and productive communities – probably the most proactive and long-term solution to the “new normal” being felt across the globe.

Our Immediate Response

- (1) **Providing food and water for survival** – Food and water are the most urgent needs for those who survived the storm. To date, GK has distributed ~100,000 food packs (~6 meals for a family of 5) in the Visayas region. Our target is to have distributed 200,000 food packs by first week of December.
- (2) **Established strategic bases of operation** – We have established 3 bases of operation: (a) Borongan, Eastern Samar (b) Baybay, Leyte, and (c) Tacloban, Leyte, serving as main hubs that receive and deploy help to the hardest-hit areas and nearby provinces. We have been bringing relief to Antique, North Negros, North Cebu, Aklan, Capiz & Iloilo; however, most of the food packs are being shipped from Manila command centers (DAR & FTI) due to supply challenges in the localities. The island composition of the Visayas makes for complex logistics.
- (3) **Activated our network of partners and volunteers** – We have made a call for help and are constantly updating our base of partners and ~1M volunteers nationwide. Volunteers have been with us since Day 1 helping to repack and distribute goods, whereas many partners have fueled the relief and have pledged to give for the rebuilding efforts.

For more details, please refer to <http://gk1world.com/typhoon-yolanda>

Our Action Plan

- (1) **Sustain RELIEF efforts for the next 2-5mos.** We will continue to bring food and water where most needed (i.e. Aklan, Capiz & Iloilo). Eventually, we will (a) transition to supplemental feeding for children, elderly and nursing mothers (b) conduct medical missions to address growing health concerns and (c) introduce play therapy for children suffering from trauma in all our areas of operation.
- (2) **Begin house REBUILDING & REPAIR works ASAP.**
 - a. **REPAIR 5,000 damaged roofs.** Many houses in the region survived the storm, with only the roofs getting partially/ totally damaged.
 - b. **REBUILD 20,000 homes.** Critical to achieve this are the identification of safe relocation sites and, given the scope, the building up of GK's capacity for community organizing. Currently, we have identified reconstruction sites in Ormoc (Leyte), Bantayan (Northern Cebu) and North Iloilo as the likely candidates for groundbreaking this December 2013. We are also preparing to build in Samar, Capiz, Aklan, Antique and other towns in Leyte.
- (3) **Open LIVELIHOOD opportunities.** In partnership with the LGU, GK will set-up the following programs:
 - a. GK Balanggay for fisher folks – Replacing fishing boats damaged by the typhoon with new, motorized boats.
 - b. GK Bayan-Anihan Program for affected farmers – Helping fund the farmers' next cropping.



Help Needed

(1) Resources for the rebuilding of houses and opening of livelihood opportunities.

1 GK house = PHP125,000 or ~USD 3,000*

1 fishing boat = PHP 30,000 or ~ USD 700*

Repair of damaged roof = PHP 20,000 or ~USD 470*

(2) Operational support (communication, transportation, hiring and training budget) to sustain relief and rebuilding.

**Note: Based on 2013 prices and booking rate of 1USD = PHP 43. May be subject to change.*

Give at <http://gk1world.com/typhoon-yolanda>

Our International Network

In the Philippines, Gawad Kalinga is a registered donee institution with the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

In the US, GK USA is a 501(c)(3) organization. (www.gk-usa.org)

In Canada, GK Canada is registered charity under the Canada Revenue Agency. (www.gk1canada.com)

Contact GK Executive Director Luis Oquinena (jlloquinena@gk1world.com)

Other Rebuilding Plans

Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) is the third major crisis Philippines has had to face in the last 3 months. It was preceded by an earthquake in Bohol and an armed conflict in Zamboanga, also resulting in a loss of lives and displacement of thousands of families. GK is resolved to include them in the plans and campaigns for rebuilding.

Our Previous Efforts on Disaster Relief and Rebuilding

To see our previous efforts disaster relief and rebuilding, you may check out the following links:

<i>Main Page</i>	<i>Related Articles</i>
TYPHOON PABLO http://www.gk1world.com/typhoon-pablo	* http://www.gk1world.com/hope-is-the-new-normal * http://gk1world.com/kaisa-para-sa-cateel
TYPHOON SENDONG http://gk1world.com/special-report-sendong http://gk1world.com/sendong-update-as-of-oct-2012	* http://gk1world.com/committed-to-rebuild-lives * http://gk1world.com/hope-rises-in-iligan * http://gk1world.com/hope-rises-in-cagayan-de-oro * http://gk1world.com/shell-helps-rebuild-the-lives-of-typhoon-sendong-victims
OTHER DISASTERS * Bohol Earthquake: http://www.gk1world.com/walang-iwanan * Typhoon Maring: http://gk1world.com/typhoon-maring * Habagat: http://www.gk1world.com/ncr-monsoon-flooding	

References/Endorsements

University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy and Practice

(http://www.impact.upenn.edu/blog/page/philippines_typhoon_how_can_i_help)

New York Times

(http://thelede.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/11/11/how-to-help-philippines-typhoon-victims/?_r=0)

Why GK, according to Focusing Philanthropy (<http://focusingphilanthropy.org>), a California-based group whose mission is to aid philanthropists in choosing credible and relevant NGO's as recipients

* GK's core activities relate to long-term improvement in the housing and community building for and by very poor Filipinos who have historically lived in slums. They are an indigenous organization of Filipinos helping Filipinos. We like this perspective because we believe immediate emergency assistance is best when built on an established local network and when matched with a capacity to help rebuild long term.

* GK is increasingly active in responding to emergency situations through their established network of thousands of volunteers already on the ground in many communities. For example, GK had already activated its network and shown effectiveness in responding to the October 2013 Bohol earthquake, a serious calamity that shortly preceded the typhoon.

* Because the many GK communities were built in places and with materials designed to withstand typhoons and flooding, they survived the recent events better than most other areas. This permits these communities to serve as staging areas for relief with highly motivated, already-organized local volunteers.

* GK has been endorsed as an effective relief and rebuilding organization in the Philippines by the Skoll Foundation (<http://skollfoundation.org> with which Focusing Philanthropy has a close relationship) and the Center for High Impact Philanthropy of the University of Pennsylvania, among other credible organizations.