
2023

ANNUAL
REPORT

PDRF 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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Chief Resilience Officer
Executive Director
Operations Center Director

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Dear Partners and Friends,

2023 was one of the better years for the Philippines in terms of storms. Instead of our usual quota of 20 or more typhoons, we only experienced 11 tropical cyclones. Nevertheless, PDRF served over 18,000 individuals in disaster-affected areas and helped 700 individuals whose lives were destroyed by Typhoon Odette get back on their feet. We continue to work on our preparedness programs. In response to the urgent challenges posed by climate change, PDRF trained more than 3,000 individuals in preparedness and climate resilience. Because of grants from USAID, Give2Asia, and the Australian government, we have:

1. Helped the Department of Energy build its Energy Sector Emergency Operations Center referencing on the procedures, system, equipment and facilities of our Clark Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and deployed four Mobile Energy System to provide emergency power using renewable energy sources (9.18kWp solar panels) in the case of calamities. (The Department of Social Welfare and Development launched its EOC based again on Clark while both the Department of Education and Department of Environment and Natural Resources are planning their own Operations Centers using Clark as their model.)
2. Upgraded the readiness for catastrophes of the province of Laguna particularly its utilities and ecozones through our Area-Wide Business Continuity Management program.
3. Procured emergency communications equipment to the local governments of Butuan City, Borongan, Eastern Samar and Virac, Catanduanes through the Resilient Emergency Communications for Enhanced Disaster Response Project
4. Continued to assist the local governments of Batangas city, Zamboanga, Cotabato, Borongan, Iloilo and Legaspi in gearing up for potential natural disasters through our Climate Resilient Communities project.
5. Worked with the local government and communities of the small island Province of Marinduque to help them develop forecast-based approaches for early action to strengthen community resilience and self-reliance during disasters using evidence-based advocacy in policy discussion and capacity-building.

PDRF continues to serve as a beacon of hope and inspiration for countries around the world in terms of what private companies can achieve when they are committed and work together.

Our PDRF team is often asked why we do it. Why does the Philippine private sector get so involved in disasters? Perhaps the best answer is a quote from Robert Kennedy who once said, "But we can perhaps remember, if only for a time, that those who live with us are our brothers, that they share with us the same short moment of life; that they seek, as we do, nothing but the chance to live out their lives in purpose and in happiness, winning what satisfaction and fulfillment they can."

We help because we are all part of the community. When a storm or an earthquake strikes, it makes no distinction as to whom it harms. We help because we believe in uplifting people by providing essential support and resources to those in need. Our commitment stems from a deep sense of shared humanity and the belief that every person deserves to get back on their feet and thrive. Most importantly, we help because of what Kennedy said so eloquently, they are our brothers.

Our thanks to all our member companies and partners in the government and the international community for their support. May we continue to do good for our people and the world.



Manuel V. Pangilinan
Co-Chairman



Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle
Co-Chairman

Message from the Co-Chairmen

"Our commitment stems from
a **deep sense of shared
humanity** and the belief that
every person deserves to get
back on their feet and thrive."



Dear Friends and Partners,

Since PDRF reorganized after Supertyphoon Yolanda (international name: Haiyan) in 2013, the country has seen significant improvement in terms of reducing casualties and property damage. That year marked a paradigm shift from Disaster Response to Disaster Preparedness and Resilience not only in the private sector but in government as well.

Supertyphoon Yolanda caused 6,300 lives and P95.5 billion in losses. Since then, both the number of casualties and losses have dropped significantly. While this may be partially due to location, geography, and population of where storms hit, we believe that disaster preparedness and prevention have played a major role in this reduction.

For PDRF, forecasting disasters have greatly improved at our Emergency Operations Center in Clark in the eleven years since Yolanda, giving us the ability to provide early warning to our members. Between storms, our work in training and business continuity for businesses (both large and micro, small, and medium-scale enterprises) as well as national and local government units has helped prepare organizations for natural disasters. We're proud to see our training manuals and business continuity templates in wide use.

Our partnerships with businesses, the government, cities and municipalities, and international humanitarian and development agencies have also strengthened us as well as the entire ecosystem of humanitarian organizations. Collaboration and coordination makes us all stronger and enables the country to withstand the inevitable natural disaster.

Some examples of this international partnership include projects and training trips sponsored by organizations like USAID, Australia, United Kingdom, Canada, Sweden, New Zealand, Common Purpose and American Express, Asia Pacific Disaster Center, and others. We also have an active partnership with the United Nations Humanitarian Country Team, most especially OCHA, UNDP, UNICEF, World Food Program, and Connecting Business Initiative. These partnerships have enabled us to execute projects all over the country and send our staff on training missions abroad.

Our partnerships have also taken on a new dimension, working with different national government agencies and local governments to set up their command centers patterned after or designed by PDRF. These include centers at Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Energy, and several cities and municipalities.

As always, this work could not have been carried out without our dedicated and passionate team, led by Butch Meily, Bill Luz, and Veron Gabaldon. My thanks to all the men and women of PDRF who help make a more Resilient Philippines.



Jaime Augusto Zobel De Ayala
Co-Chairman

Message from the Co-Chairmen

"Collaboration and coordination makes us all stronger and enables the country to withstand the inevitable natural disaster."



Dear Partners,

One of my most vivid memories growing up is when our home in Loyola Heights lost its roof immediately after the eye of Typhoon Yoling (Patsy) passed over Manila. My family didn't realize that a storm is at its worst right after the eye, where it is so peaceful that it almost seems like heaven, glides over you. Now that I am older, I have seen so much more destruction in different parts of the country due to typhoons, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and conflict. Through it all, the one shining light in the darkness has been the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation. Our vision of companies working together to prepare for calamities and then once they occur, assist communities and businesses get back on their feet and help them rebuild is one that has struck a chord among countries around the world. It inspired the Connecting Business Initiative, launched by the UN in Istanbul at the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016. Today, 16 countries are members of CBI.

I delivered the closing remarks at that summit and ended with a quote from Dag Hammarskjöld, the UN's first Secretary General:

"I don't know Who or what put the question. I don't know when it was put. I don't even remember answering. But at some moment, I answered 'Yes' to Someone or Something and from that hour I was certain that existence is meaningful and that my life had a goal."

That's what I feel PDRF has given me over the years. That's what I believe PDRF has given to so many of my teammates. A moral purpose. A sense of fulfillment. A belief that we are on earth for a reason. May you feel what we feel because of the enormous good that you and your companies are achieving every day of every year as part of this great institution.

The achievements reflected in this report and the ongoing initiatives and programs demonstrate our commitment to our core values and mission. We are grateful for the support of our partners, volunteers and community members. Their dedication and collaboration have been instrumental in our success.

Looking forward, our team remains devoted to increasing our impact and expanding our reach. We are excited about the opportunities and confident in our ability to continue to make this a better world.



Rene Meily
President

Message from the President

"Our vision of
companies
working together

to prepare for calamities
and then once they occur,
assist communities and
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countries around the
world."



Dear Partners and Friends,

When PDRF pivoted from Disaster Recovery to Disaster Resilience in 2014 following Supertyphoon Yolanda (Haiyan) in 2013, we chose to focus on four basic types of natural hazards and disasters – Typhoons, Earthquakes, Volcanic Eruptions, and Pandemic. The first three risks were obvious ones to us since we faced 20 to 25 typhoons on any given year and were located in the region's Ring of Fire with plenty of earthquake fault lines and live volcanoes. The fourth risk – Pandemic – was less familiar to us though we had envisioned more localized epidemics and local outbreaks of malaria, dengue, and other diseases more common to tropical countries.

Thanks to technology, training, and capacity-building, we were able to build up our capabilities to anticipate and manage through typhoons, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions. Our investment in mapping technology, training, and drills strengthened us as an organization and contributed to the overall resilience of the country. The emergence of COVID-19 in the first quarter of 2020 forced us to rapidly learn as much as we could about this coronavirus and coordinate a response with the government. Fortunately, adaptability and flexibility which we learned from dealing with natural disasters enabled us to effectively respond to this pandemic.

Today, PDRF has become a leading private organization in disaster resilience and response not only in the Philippines but in international circles as well. PDRF has become a pioneer organization in the United Nations' Connecting Business Initiative and is also a member of many international consortia. We have also become an actively sought after partner for new organizations which want to learn from PDRF's "business model" and Emergency Operations Center in Clark, Pampanga.

Our EOC regularly receives visitors from international humanitarian teams, foreign embassies, national government agencies, local governments, and visiting delegations from other countries. As a result, we've also been able to grow out our partnerships and expand our network. This is important because the wider the network, the stronger the ecosystem and more resilient it becomes.

Reflecting on our last 10 years, we can say that we have made great strides in dealing with "quick onset" disasters and are constantly working to improve our operations. Looking ahead, we now need to think of how to work with "slow onset" disasters such as drought, climate change, malnutrition, and others. These are disasters which have longer lead times and are not so immediately visible until they are upon us. But make not mistake: there are signals and indicators which provide clear clues of their progress. Moreover, the pace of that progression is faster than it looks, accelerates, and are not so easy to reverse nor do they disappear. Over the next 10 years, I'm afraid this will add to the challenges we already face. We will need to learn to adapt.

Fortunately, we have been able to receive support and assistance from our many partners as well as receive the passion and commitment of our team. I hope that we continue to earn and receive that trust.



Guillermo Luz
Chief Resilience Officer

Message from the Chief Resilience Officer

"We've also been able to grow out our partnerships and expand our network. This is important because **the wider the network, the stronger the ecosystem** and more resilient it becomes."



Dear Partners,

Climate resilience is a critical issue that the private sector plays a significant role in addressing. In several studies about climate resilience, the private sector is often cited as having the ability to lead in adaptation and mitigation. You will also find studies on how businesses can contribute to resilience to climate change's impacts—from reducing greenhouse gas emissions and investing in sustainable practices and technology to transitioning to renewable energy, to name a few. Before taking these actions, we must first understand climate risks because each business is unique in location, operation, and supply chain.

Our country's high-risk index, coupled with the changing climate, significantly impacts our disaster risk reduction and management efforts. The consequences of climate change, such as rising sea levels, higher temperatures, and more frequent extreme weather events, can lead to floods, landslides, erosion, and other detrimental effects. These, in turn, pollute water resources, damage infrastructure, destroy crops, and even result in loss of lives and livelihoods.

Understanding the potential impacts of climate change and incorporating them into our disaster risk management plan is crucial. This involves conducting risk assessments, setting adaptation goals, and integrating climate considerations into long-term planning and investment strategies. By prioritizing climate resilience, businesses can safeguard their assets and operations, promoting long-term sustainability and competitiveness. These actions also contribute to mitigating their role in climate change. Government support is a vital catalyst for private sector action, and the National Adaptation Plan 2023-2050 serves as a blueprint and guide for the country's adaptation priorities.

At PDRF, we plan to leverage our network to facilitate knowledge sharing and encourage a collective approach to disaster resilience and climate adaptation. Our Climate Resilient Cities project is a significant step in this direction, enhancing the capacities of local government units, communities, and the private sector. We also intend to integrate climate action into our MSME Resilience program.

We are grateful to our member companies and partners for their ongoing support in sharing best practices, expertise, and joint community-based programs. Enhancing private sector engagement in disaster risk reduction globally is a key priority for us, as their resources, innovation, and leadership are crucial in mitigating risks and building resilience. By fostering stronger collaborations with businesses worldwide, we aim to create more effective and sustainable solutions.

Lastly, to the PDRF team, thank you for your unwavering dedication and exceptional hard work; your commitment has been instrumental in our progress. Your efforts are deeply appreciated and recognized. Together, we aspire to cultivate stronger leaders in disaster risk reduction, ensuring a resilient and safer future for our communities.



Veronica Gabaldon
Executive Director



Message from the
Executive Director

Dear Partners,

In a period of growing uncertainty and complexity fueled by risk multipliers such as climate change, the need for a coordinated, collaborative response that brings together the unique resources and expertise of the private sector is increasingly becoming more apparent.

Undoubtedly, the private sector, with its unique capabilities, networks, and resources, plays a vital role in supporting nationally-led disaster response and recovery efforts. Whether big or small, companies and businesses are not just supplementary but integral to ensuring a comprehensive and effective approach to crisis management.

Recognizing their important role in DRRM, PDRF organized and launched the 1st Cluster Connect Conference in October 2023. This landmark event brought together some of the biggest businesses in the Philippines to explore opportunities for strengthening coordination and collaboration among the members of the PDRF network.

During the conference, several strategies were recommended on how coordinated response from the private sector could be made more effective and efficient:

- Establish pre-arranged agreements with private sector companies to provide specialized expertise and resources in critical areas such as logistics, supply chain management, technology, and risk management.
- Encourage private sector companies to actively lead specialized clusters or working groups within the disaster response framework.
- Explore a geographical or localized cluster approach, where companies tailor their response efforts to the unique needs and circumstances of specific regions or communities.

- Strengthen communication channels and data-sharing protocols between the private sector and the PDRF EOC using the Hazard Analysis for Business Resilience (HANDA) platform, an ArcGIS power geographic information system to ensure transparency, accountability, and overall coordination of the private sector's disaster response activities, avoiding duplication and maximizing impact.
- Establish a pooled funding mechanism within the PDRF network to serve as the private sector's dedicated financing source for disaster response. This collective approach can provide a reliable and flexible source of funds, enabling the private sector to quickly mobilize and deploy critical life-saving support when and where it is needed.

In times of disaster, we are reminded of our shared responsibility to support one another. Within the PDRF, our goal is to strengthen the private sector's integration, coordination, and resourcing within the broader disaster response ecosystem, unlocking the unique capabilities, expertise, and resources of businesses to enhance the overall effectiveness and efficiency of disaster response efforts.

It is this spirit of unity and collective action that will see us through even the most daunting challenges.



Arnel Capili
Operations Center Director



Message from the
Operations Center Director

About PDRF



Established in 2010, the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) is the country's major private sector coordinator for disaster resilience. As an alliance of businesses dedicated to building the disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) capabilities of the private sector in the country, PDRF aims to contribute to the sustainable development and general welfare of the Filipino people.

With a whole-of-society approach, PDRF bridges partnerships not only with other private sector entities but also with communities and local governments, the public sector, civil society groups, and local and international humanitarian organizations. Furthermore, it embodies a solidarity that transcends business competition to achieve the shared vision of a resilient, disaster-ready Philippines.

OUR VISION

Be the leading private sector organization in the Philippines and a global partner for empowering communities and businesses towards Resilience.

OUR MISSION

To build disaster-resilient communities and businesses in the country through private sector engagement and innovative DRRM strategies, programs, and technologies.

CORE VALUES

INNOVATIVE

PDRF harnesses core competencies of the private sector by utilizing best practices towards building disaster resilience and continuously seeks creative solutions to addressing challenges.

INTEGRITY

PDRF strives to be transparent and accountable in what we do and who we work with.

INCLUSIVE

PDRF is collaborative in nature, respectful of differences and diverse backgrounds and interests, non-discriminatory, and without bias.

COMMITTED

PDRF serves our stakeholders efficiently, effectively, and to the best of our ability.

SERVICE TO OTHERS

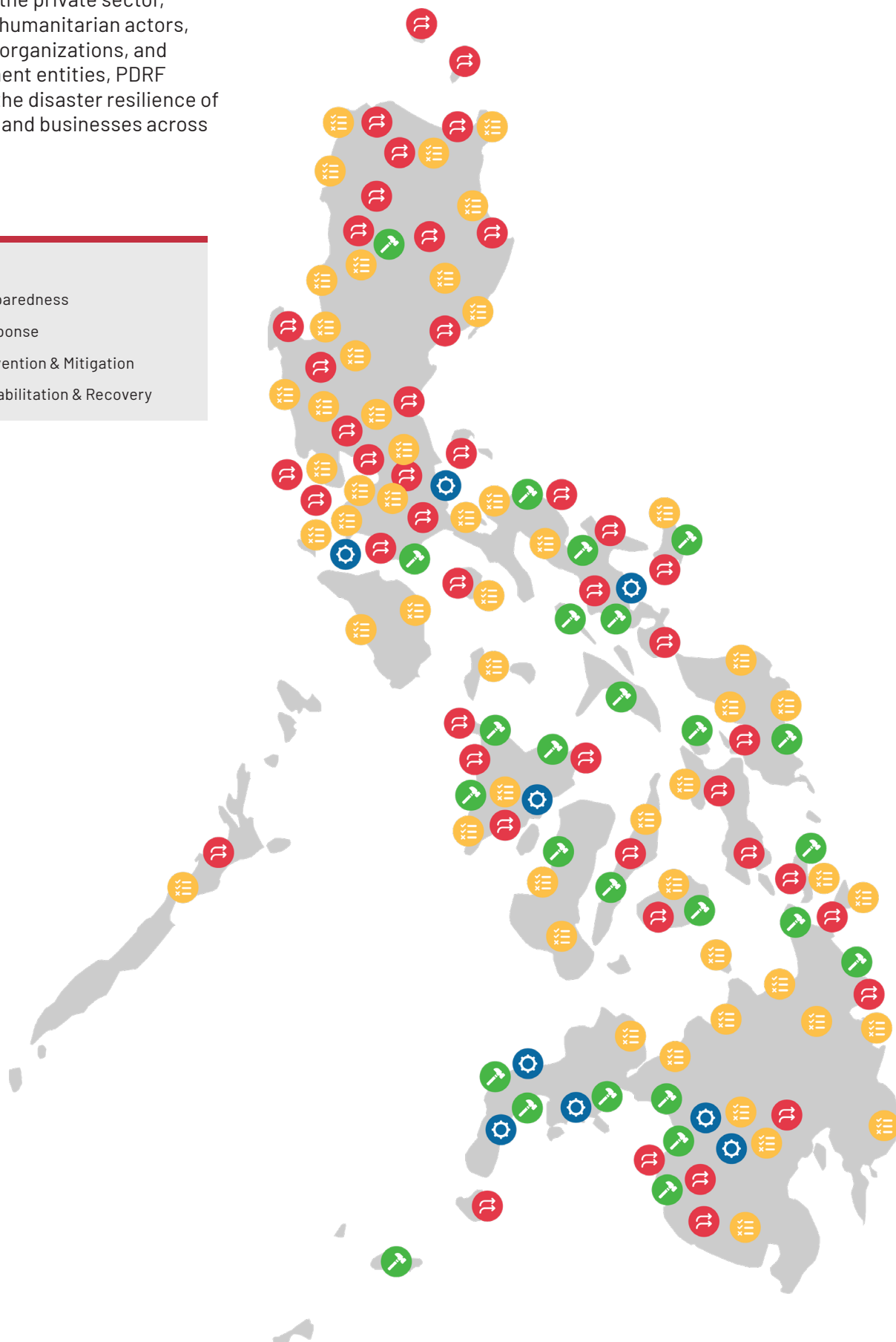
PDRF is passionate in equipping businesses and communities with knowledge and best practices in disaster resilience.

OUR WORK

PDRF's programs and initiatives cover all pillars of DRRM. By continuously working with the private sector, government, humanitarian actors, international organizations, and non-government entities, PDRF strengthens the disaster resilience of communities and businesses across the country.

Legend:

-  Preparedness
-  Response
-  Prevention & Mitigation
-  Rehabilitation & Recovery



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Recognizing the private sector's pivotal role in driving innovation and resilience, PDRF strongly focused on engaging the private sector in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation (DRR-CCA). By beginning to incorporate DRR-CCA strategies into its programs and policies, we aim to foster comprehensive approaches that integrate risk management and climate adaptation.

In anticipation of El Niño, as forecasted by PAGASA, our Emergency Operations Center maintained vigilant monitoring of the situation. Through briefings and advisories, we ensured that our member companies remained well-informed and updated, empowering them to take proactive measures to safeguard their business operations and assets against potential risks.

One of the highlights of this year was the Cluster Connect Conference, which brought together leaders, practitioners, and experts from the public and private sectors, institutions, and humanitarian organizations to strengthen the collaboration among private sector and establish systems and strategies for addressing emerging challenges in DRRM.

In addition to our advocacy efforts, PDRF launched three new funded projects focused on enhancing preparedness in critical areas: Business Continuity, Emergency Communications, and Sustainable Energy. These initiatives underscore our commitment to addressing immediate concerns and laying the groundwork for sustainable resilience in the face of future crises.

Continuing our commitment to MSME Resilience, PDRF focused more on supporting micro- and nano-entrepreneurs by equipping them with knowledge and skills in business continuity planning.

Our strategic partnerships with various international organizations further solidify PDRF's reputation as a global leader in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management. This recognition reflects our steadfast dedication to excellence in private sector engagement, positioning PDRF at the forefront of driving impactful change in DRRM initiatives worldwide.

Operations

PHP 96.2M

Total grant for strengthening disaster risk management

10

EOC activations and enhanced monitoring operations

- 5** Private sector events hosted
- 3** Network briefings conducted
- 3** Cluster visits and meetings
- 5** Tabletop exercises conducted

Development Programs and Innovation

PHP 38M

Total grant for Development and Innovation projects

700

Individuals reached by Typhoon Odette Recovery initiatives

419

Trained local government staff on Climate Resilience

- 2** National events on Climate Resilience
- 2** Annual Innovation Challenges
 - Philippine Water Challenge
 - Innovations for Resilience Challenge
- 4** Courses developed
 - Accessing Climate Finance
 - EOC Level 1
 - Basic GIS
 - Community Risk Mapping

Learning & Development

2,363

Total number of learners

- 68** PDRF pool of experts
- 7** Resilience tools developed
- 2** New iDAPT Courses

The background is a deep red color with a visible paper-like texture, including small fibers and slight variations in tone. Overlaid on this are several semi-transparent, light red geometric shapes: a large semi-circle in the top left, a rectangle in the top right, a semi-circle in the bottom right, and a complex shape on the left side that combines a semi-circle and a rectangle. A thin white horizontal line is positioned just above the text.

Our Impact

RESPONSE

Hydrometeorological Hazards

The PDRF EOC, together with its private sector network, responded to the following hazards: Mayon Volcanic Eruption, M7.4 Hinatuan Earthquake, M7.2 Davao Occidental Earthquake, Tropical Cyclone Egay, and Tropical Cyclone Betty.

The Operations Team also conducted multiple operational briefings to inform the network of the potential effects of hazards and to prepare their business operations.

Turkiye Earthquake Response

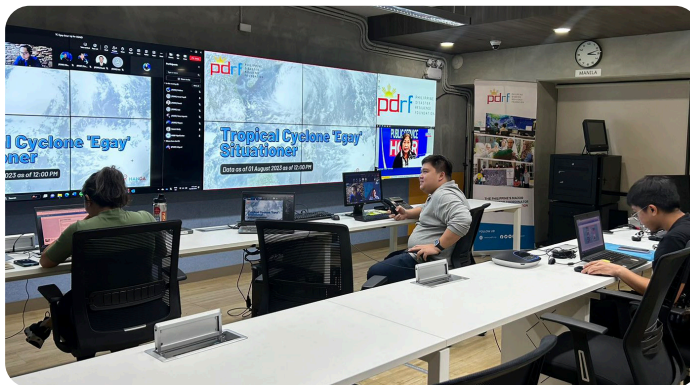
Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. and Pilipinas Shell Foundation donated PHP 500,000 to PDRF as part of the Foundations' response to aid the families affected by the M7.8 earthquake in Turkiye in February. The funds were raised by the employees and was matched by the management. Pilipinas Shell and PDRF have been strong partners in disaster response and recovery as early as 2013 during Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan). PDRF also received 300 pieces of winter clothing from the Confederation of Wearable Exporters of the Philippines.

Mayon Response

PDRF and the League of Corporate Foundations members provided relief items in response to the call of the government for augmentation of support to the displaced families due to the Mayon unrest. McDonald's Ronald House of Charity, Jollibee, and PhilSeven Foundation donated 2,700 ready-to-eat meals and 1000 packs of bread to selected evacuation centers in Daraga; Manila Water Foundation provided 1000 units of 5 gallons of water and 60 boxes of soap. PDRF supported the response by providing logistics through FedEx and coordinating with the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) Central and Region 5 and the Albay Provincial Public Safety and Emergency Management Office.

Typhoon Egay Response

With the help of the PDRF EOC, McDonald's Kindness Kitchen and Jollibee Foods Corporation distributed hot meals to evacuation centers; PLDT and Smart sent packs of rice and hygiene kits; Alagang Kapatid Foundation, Inc. distributed relief goods from Pilipinas Shell Foundation, Inc., One Meralco Foundation, Maynilad, Metro Pacific Investments Foundation, and Makati Medical Center Foundation.



Briefing of private sector partners on the situation of Typhoon Egay at the PDRF Emergency Operations Center



Turnover of donations from PDRF partners to the Provincial Government of Albay during Mayon Response

2023 PRIVATE SECTOR RESPONSE



PHP 1.5M

Total value of cash and in-kind grants mobilized for response



27

LGUs reached



18,655

Individuals served



60,000

Liters of water



3,600

Ready-to-eat meals



1,440

Hygiene kits



12,000

Families served

DONORS



RECOVERY

Typhoon Odette Recovery

Community Risk Mapping

As part of recovery initiative for Odette-hit communities, eight (8) barangays in Dinagat Islands underwent community risk mapping training to create an atlas of their communities which will be used to prepare for disasters. The training included using the Kobo Toolbox and Kobo Collect app for risk mapping and post-disaster assessment.

With the support of Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office and the Philippine Geographical Society as PDRF's partners on the ground, the PDRF Recovery team turned over the atlases that will serve as guides and models for other barangays to follow with the support of the Provincial DRRM Office.

Sustainable Livelihood

PDRF established three (3) boat-building sites across Dinagat, Siargao, and Bohol. These projects, aligned with PDRF's sustainable recovery initiatives, aimed to empower and equip fisherfolk with the skills to build and repair fiberglass boats. By fostering these capabilities, the fisherfolk can become more self-reliant and resilient in the face of future typhoons.

Fisherfolk beneficiaries using the new fiber boats donated under the Odette Early Recovery Project



Catanduanes Recovery

Through the Catanduanes Recovery Project, PDRF, PLDT, and Smart Communications, Inc., with the support of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, provided two (2) Ligtas Kits to the municipalities of Virac and San Andres in Catanduanes. An all-in-one emergency communications package, the PLDT and Smart Ligtas Kit aims to supplement the municipalities' disaster preparedness and emergency response capacity to keep their residents safe. Each kit comes with emergency communications training to be conducted by PLDT, Smart, and PDRF.

Super Typhoon Haiyan 10th Anniversary

To mark the 10th anniversary of Super Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) making landfall in Eastern Samar, PDRF revisited the projects that it implemented together with its donors and partners in the affected areas in Tacloban City. The devastating impact spread across 41 provinces in 9 regions, affected 16 million people, displaced 4 million and caused 6,000 deaths.

Learning from Haiyan, PDRF has focused on building preparedness and resilience of communities and businesses.



PDRF President Butch Meily and Executive Director during their visit to Tacloban Leyte, 10 years after Typhoon Yolanda

MITIGATION - RESILIENCE

Climate Resilient Cities

The PDRF Climate Resilient Cities (CRC) Team continues to hold series of training for target cities. These included Science Communication Training, Training of Facilitators for Local Climate Change Action Planning, Climate and Disaster Risk Assessment, and Proposal Development, and Basic GIS for local government units (LGUs). Through these training, participants gained new capabilities that can be applied to their work, resulting in more effective and efficient implementation of the Climate Change Adaptation initiatives.

Water Security

Lithos Manufacturing and Manly Plastics won the first prize in the 2nd Philippine Water Challenge with their ML Foldable Rainwater Tank Collection System with Zeramc Filters. It is a rooftop rainwater harvesting system with a 3-way Zeramc filter—a ceramic-based filtration technology that removes bacteria, viruses, and other contaminants from rainwater. It is collapsible, lightweight, and portable, with a capacity of 550,000 liters at Php 0.909/liter. It is designed for households, schools, and other small communities that need a reliable and affordable source of clean water.

The Philippine Water Challenge, co-organized by USAID, PDRF, Manila Water, and Maynilad Water Services, Inc., also named nine (9) more Filipino innovators who presented promising solutions to address water security issues in the country. The top five winners were awarded cash prizes, mentoring sessions, and networking support for scaling up their applications.

Lithos Manufacturing and Manly Plastics as Grand Prize Winner of the 2nd Philippine Water Challenge



Mitigating Impact of El Niño

El Niño is a weather phenomenon that occurs every few years when the surface temperatures of the Pacific Ocean warm up resulting to a significant impact on weather patterns around the world, causing droughts, floods, and storms.

To engage the private sector in preparing for and mitigating its potential impact, PDRF conducted a virtual briefing with its member companies and partners. Attended by over 240 representatives from various organizations in the water sector, government agencies, United Nations agencies, Connecting Business initiative, USAID, and other international groups, the event was organized following the issuance of the El Niño Alert by the Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (DOST-PAGASA).

Consequently, PDRF launched its El Niño Dashboard – a unified platform for sharing vital information, fostering collaboration, and amplifying private sector efforts to mitigate the impact of El Niño. It features reports from government agencies such as DOST-PAGASA, Department of Agriculture, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), as well as data on effects and damages to plan how the private sector can help affected communities and businesses.



GIS Training in Iloilo City under the Climate Resilient Cities Project

PREPAREDNESS - RESILIENCE

MSME Resilience and Business Continuity



941 Total number of
entrepreneurs trained

This year, PDRF, in partnership with LGUs, national government agencies (DOST-NCR), and private sector organizations (Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Philippine Footwear Federation, and Aboitiz), focused on micro and nano entrepreneurs equipping them with knowledge, skills, and strategies for developing their business continuity plans to ensure the sustainability of their businesses during disruptions. PDRF provided training for various MSME groups in Cebu City, Marikina City, and Negros Oriental.

Moreover, the Philippine Preparedness Partnership (PHILPREP) conducted a strategic planning activity to focus on its plans for the localization of project collaboration, sustainability, and communications through new forms of media, and capacity development for nano- and micro-entrepreneurs.

“The insights that I gained from the Business Continuity Plan program have been invaluable for my shoe business, particularly in enhancing preparedness and awareness regarding potential risks. Since our shoe store is in a flood-prone area like Marikina, the program’s emphasis on disaster preparedness has been especially beneficial. It has enabled me to implement **proactive measures to safeguard my business continuity** and ensure its continuous improvement. In business continuity planning, we delve into various strategies aimed at safeguarding operations during emergencies.”

Ely Rose Edullan

Footwear manufacture owner
BCP Participant

MSME Resilience Tools



MSME Guidebook 2nd Edition

PDRF, under PHILPREP, re-introduced the MSMEs Guide to Disaster Resilience with new sets of data and tools to promote awareness of disaster resilience among MSMEs. In its second edition, the guidebook now comes with the most recent local and global data on disaster occurrences and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on MSMEs, helpful mobile applications, and online learning platforms.

bit.ly/MSME-Guidebook-2nd-Ed

MSMEs Stories of Resilience Comic Book Series

PDRF, together with the APP PHILPREP, launched a comic book series that highlights stories of MSMEs that struggled and succeeded at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. The MSME Success Stories Comics Compendium features five (5) stories of recovery of small business owners affected by the pandemic that aims to increase awareness and appreciation of business continuity planning among MSMEs. It also highlights the best practices and challenges of MSMEs in times of disaster and business continuity planning processes that other businesses can replicate.

bit.ly/PDRF-MSMEStories-Comics

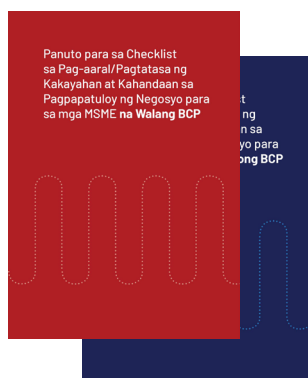


Other Learning Toolkits



Tatag Stories of MSME Disaster Resilience

bit.ly/Tatag-MSMEStories



Business Continuity Capability Checklist for MSME with and without Existing BCP

bit.ly/BC-CapabilityChecklist-WithBCP
bit.ly/BC-CapabilityChecklist-WithoutBCP



Disaster Risks and Needs Assessment Tool

<https://bit.ly/MSMETool-DRNA>



Public Service Continuity Plan



766

Total number of PSCP learners

PDRF continues its capacity-building efforts through multiple Public Service Continuity Program (PSCP) Training Sessions for various government offices, which include OCD Capacity Building and Training Service, DOST IT staff, OCD Region 7, Zamboanga City Medical Center, CDRMO Carmona, DRRMO Makati, Department of Health (DOH) hospitals from Regions 1, 2, and 3, DOH Emergency Management Bureau in Palawan, LGU offices in Toledo, Cebu, and Local DRRM offices in Region 4B.

Area-Wide Business Continuity Management

With the support of USAID and in partnership with the Provincial Government of Laguna, PDRF launched the Area-Wide Business Continuity Management (AWBCM) for Key Industries and Lifeline Utilities Project that aims to reduce disasters' social and economic impact by training enterprises and their owners in business continuity management and creating their own recovery and resilience plan.

The province of Laguna in Region IV-A has been selected as the target pilot site for this project because of its several economic zones, ranging from industrial zones to technological parks. With its proximity to Taal Volcano and several active fault lines, these economic zones have high exposure to hazards that may affect the supply chain and employees.

AWBCM will enable better risk assessment and mitigation strategies because it considers the interdependencies and interconnectedness among various businesses and sectors within an area. It will also promote effective planning among different organizations in Laguna, enhancing the ability of businesses to recover quickly after a disaster. Lastly, it will foster a culture of preparedness, equipping businesses and communities with tools and knowledge to move forward from disruptions.

"The establishment of a strategic and sustainable partnership between the public and private sectors through the creation of an area-wide business continuity management system is an exciting and essential step forward in ensuring a more **harmonized and holistic approach to disaster management.**"

Rebekah Eubanks

Acting Mission Director
USAID Philippines, Pacific Islands, and Mongolia

Emergency Communications for Disaster Response

In July, PDRF launched the Resilient Emergency Communications for Enhanced Disaster Response (REACHED) Project – a two-year program funded by the Australian Government to provide select LGUs with necessary equipment and training to ensure access to communications during and after calamities and help coordinate response and recovery operations in affected areas.

The LGUs of Butuan, Virac, and Borongan were selected based on their vulnerability to typhoons, economic revenue, population, resources, and competitive index resilience score.

This project will also harness public-private partnerships and will be implemented in collaboration with OCD, the Department of Information and Communications Technology, World Food Programme, Globe Telecom, and PLDT-Smart.

Project Ligtas

PDRF and PLDT/Smart launched Project Ligtas to improve communications, response, and LGU management during disasters. Project Ligtas is the Emergency Communications Training component of the PLDT/Smart's Ligtas Kit—an all-in-one emergency communications package that aims to supplement the municipalities' disaster preparedness and emergency response capacity to keep their residents safe.

Earthquake Early Warning System

PDRF signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, the Municipality of Calatagan, Batangas, and Seismic AI for the Earthquake and Tsunami Early Warning System project. This technology can monitor seismic hazards in South Luzon region.

PDRF also partnered with Smart Communications, Inc. in providing communications support to Bauan and Calatagan.

Sustainable Power for Resilient Communities

Under the USAID Energy Secure Philippines (ESP), PDRF launched the Sustainable Power for Adaptive and Resilient Communities (SPARC) that aims to provide access to sustainable energy to several local government units to support critical response and recovery activities after a disaster.

The project will also enhance the capability of the Department of Energy (DOE) to prepare for, respond to, and manage disasters through capacity-building activities and innovative technologies.

AWBCM stakeholders during the AWBCM Project Launch



Getting Airports Ready for Disasters



3 International airports trained

With the cooperation of lead coordinator United Nations Development Programme, lead trainer DHL Group, in-country advocate PDRF, and the national civil aviation regulator Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines, the fourth Get Airports Ready for Disaster (GARD) Program in the Philippines was successfully completed at Laguindingan Airport in July.

Twenty (20) participants from the different units of Laguindingan Airport and attached agencies participated in the three-day workshop where they learned the methodologies of GARD, from finding solutions to bottlenecks in airport logistics during disasters to airport assessment and report writing.

The GARD Program is a global public-private partnership aimed at supporting airports in planning for their role as logistical hubs in the event of natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, fires, and landslides, as well as integrating the airport's role in national emergency plans.

Safe Schools

To help build safer and more resilient schools, PDRF partnered with the Department of Education and LGUs to develop a Safer School Playbook that will help empower the school personnel to implement safer school activities addressing disasters to ensure the safety of learners and staff. Part of this initiative is the distribution of go bags to 150 teaching and non-teaching personnel from 160 high schools in Cebu and two (2) Ligas Kits. PDRF also facilitated a DRR Community Journalism workshop for high school students.

Capacity Development for Member Companies

As part of PDRF's goal of strengthening the capacity of its Member Companies, PDRF's Operations and Learning and Development teams conducted training sessions on how to use PDRF's information management system, HANDA. PDRF also engaged its Member Companies in numerous drills, tabletop exercises, and simulations.

10

Companies engaged
(PLDT, GADC, McDonald's, RAFI,
IFC, FPH/FGEN, Shell, CebuPac,
PAL, AirAsia, APMC)

6

Tabletop exercises

609

Individuals trained



Capacity Development for LGUs

The PDRF EOC facilitated a 5-day training on Basic Quantum Geographic Information System (QGIS) to different municipalities and cities of Lanao del Sur to capacitate them in integrating spatial information to make informed decisions in DRRM. The participants learned how to navigate and use the QGIS software to map and generate flood and landslide susceptibility maps using the training data.

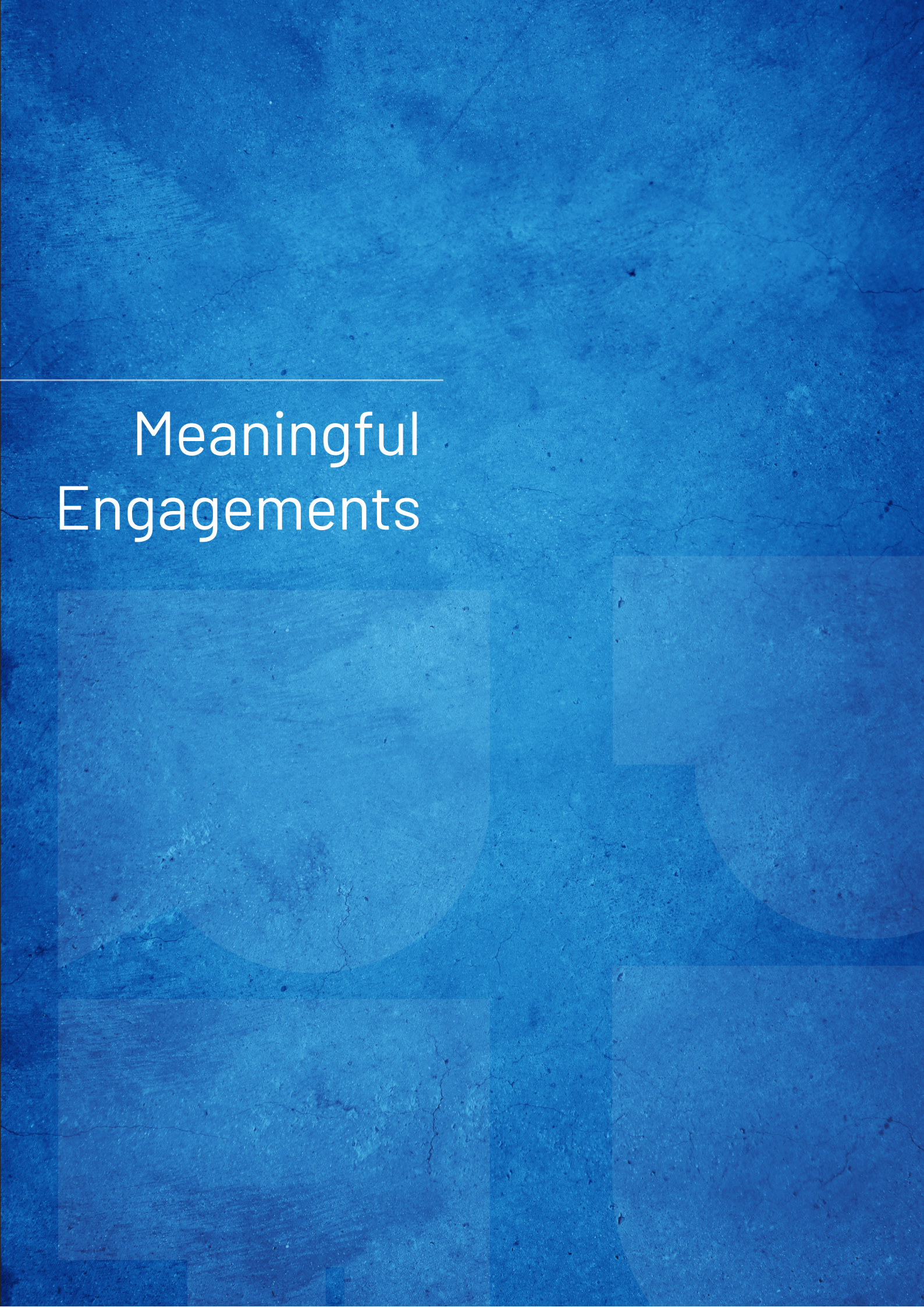
"Now, more than ever, we see the ever-growing importance of strengthening our airports' resilience to disasters. Our airports serve as gateways, crucial to the delivery of people, goods, and services, especially during emergencies and natural disasters. In the future, we hope that exercises such as GARD can be echoed to other CAAP-operated airports around the country as well."

Gen. Captain Manuel Antonio Tamayo
CAAP Director



GARD Workshop at Laguindingan International Airport

Meaningful Engagements

The background is a textured blue surface with several overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes. These include a large circle on the left, a smaller circle on the right, and several rectangles of varying sizes and orientations scattered across the lower half of the image. The overall aesthetic is modern and minimalist.

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

International Women's Day

In celebration of International Women's Day last March 8, PDRF Executive Director Veronica Gabaldon attended the USAID Philippines Forum on Women Leadership in Climate Action as one of the panelists. She shared about PDRF and its private sector network's efforts in disaster resilience, how "femininity has never been a liability," and how it shaped her leadership through the years.

CBi Regional Workshops

Represented by President Butch Meily, Executive Director Veronica Gabaldon, and Operations Director Arnel Capili, PDRF attended the Asia and Pacific regional workshop organized by the Connecting Business initiative (CBi). The event gathered 50 representatives of the private sector, government, UN agencies, and international organizations from 18 countries to discuss enhancing meaningful business participation in national and regional disaster management coordination mechanisms. The event included nine (9) sessions and country-level activities to improve partnership and collaboration for disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

MWF's Partners Recognition

PDRF received recognition during Manila Water Foundation's (MWF) Partners Recognition Event as part of their 18th anniversary. MWF has been a valuable partner of PDRF, especially during its disaster response and recovery activities.

NATIONAL & GLOBAL PROFILE

National Oil and Gas Contingency Planning

The Scoping Workshop on the Formulation of the National Oil and Gas Contingency Plan (NOGCP) with DOE focused on the M7.2 earthquake in the Greater Metro Manila Area same with the NECP – the main difference is that it is an all-hazard analysis that has cascading impact nationwide due to the oil and gas supply chain.

Launch of EOC Module (CBi Annual Meeting Istanbul)

PDRF, in collaboration with CBI, introduced the Business Emergency Operations Center (BEOC) Course, designed to empower CBI member networks in establishing their own EOCs. The course targets enhancing preparedness and response capabilities for disasters. By fostering the development of EOCs, the initiative facilitates improved coordination among the private sector, NDMOs, CSOs, and other humanitarian partners, thereby bolstering overall disaster response efforts.

South-South Learning Exchange with Nepal Preparedness Partnership

PHILPREP went to Nepal to have a South-South Learning Exchange with the Nepal Preparedness Partnership. PDRF's MSME Resilience Program Supervisor Michelle Bayhonan joined the trip with other PHILPREP member organizations representatives—OCD, CDP, and the UP Resilience Institute. The Learning Exchange Session focused on Nepal's country partnership and leveraging its multi-sectoral approach. Possible areas of collaboration were also tackled, such as a disability-inclusive version of the National DRRM Plan.

National Energy Contingency Plan

As part of the long-standing partnership with the DOE, PDRF has continuously co-designed and supported the agency in updating the National Energy Contingency Plans (NECP), protocols and test the viability and efficiency of each plan. In October, PDRF together with DOE and USAID ESP implemented the second tabletop exercise for the sector, this time, focusing on the activation and execution plan by the Luzon Field Office of DOE.

Formulation of Energy Resiliency Roadmap

In May, PDRF attended and supported the workshop on Energy Resiliency Roadmap 2024-2029 in Tagaytay with partners from the DOE and the USAID ESP. PDRF has been working with DOE since 2019 in supporting the activities of Energy Resiliency and NECP.

APP Regional Steering Committee

In October, PDRF joined the 8th APP Regional Steering Committee Meeting in Manila. As it moves to Phase 3 of its program, the event aimed gather DRR leaders from Asia Pacific to explore achievements, successes, challenges, and lessons and to reflect on the impact of their efforts over the last five (5) years.

APP is a multi-stakeholder regional partnership established in 2017 by its founding member countries – Cambodia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, with Technical and secretariat support from the ADPC and funding assistance from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and USAID-BHA.

PDRF with DOE during the launch of the National Energy Contingency Plan for the "Big One"



"Each of the partner brings its own unique strengths and resources to the relationship. One of the things we learn from the COVID-19 pandemic is that **we are all connected** – that is the significance of APP."

Rene Meily
PDRF President

PARTNERSHIPS

Partnership with Nissan

As part of their Blue Switch Program, Nissan Philippines Inc. signed a partnership agreement with PDRF that will allow the Foundation to use Nissan's LEAF e-vehicle for its disaster response and recovery activities. The partnership will also enable the two organizations to explore efficient and sustainable ways to respond to disasters and mitigate the impact of climate change. Present at the ceremonial signing were Nissan Philippines Inc. President Juan Manuel Hoyos, PDRF President Rene Meily, PDRF Chief Resilience Officer Guillermo Luz, and PDRF Executive Director Veronica Gabaldon.

Partnership with MondayERT

The PDRF Operations Center collaborated with Monday.com ERT to enhance PDRF's capabilities in digitizing and automating its workflows. This strategic partnership empowers PDRF to streamline its operations, allowing efficient delivery of humanitarian aid and coordination efforts.

Partnership with Task Force Kiwi, Map Action, and Direct Relief

PDRF and Taskforce Kiwi – a New Zealand-based veteran-led disaster relief charity – joined forces to enhance disaster risk management in Philippines and New Zealand.

The partnership agreement's key aspects include (1) addressing response gaps during large-scale humanitarian operations; (2) involving regular connectivity tests and simulation exercises; and (3) strengthening Private Sector engagement in DRRM, including the exchange of experts, hosting study visits, and more.

Ceremonial Signing of partnership between PDRF and Task Force Kiwi



Ceremonial Signing and demonstration of Nissan EV at the PDRF Emergency Operations Center



Cluster Connect Conference

With its unwavering commitment to advancing disaster resilience and in solidarity with the International Day of Risk Reduction, PDRF held its Cluster Connect Conference in Makati with the theme: "Fighting Inequality for a Resilient Future."

This conference is an annual gathering and a platform where leaders, practitioners, and experts from the private sector, government offices, and humanitarian organizations convene to explore pioneering solutions and strategies on how the private sector can amplify a nationally-led response.

In his speech, DSWD Secretary Rexlon Gatchalian emphasized that disaster risk management constitutes a collective responsibility and that DSWD is ready to collaborate with PDRF in its endeavor to enhance resilience.

During the workshop, PDRF and the delegates explored pivotal facets of private sector response and exchanged invaluable perspectives and insights.



Partnership with Airlink and conduct of Logistics Preparedness for Non-Profits

PDRF and Airlink, an international logistics nonprofit organization focused on disaster response, signed a partnership agreement in emergency response logistics. As part of the partnership, Airlink held an in-person logistics workshop in June at the PDRF EOC, which aimed to proactively build organizational and collective preparedness among nonprofits by sharing good practices through tabletop exercises, information sharing, and other interactive sessions to develop logistical competencies. Keynote speakers also offered insights into specific regional challenges in the region.

Partnership with NAMRIA on Basic and Advanced GIS Training

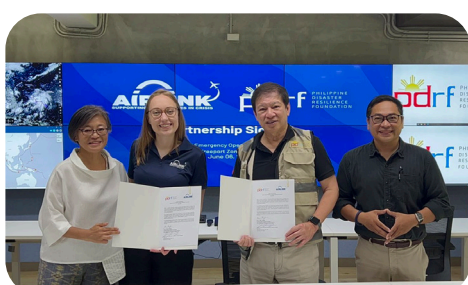
As part of the implementation of the CRC Project, PDRF partnered with the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) for the conduct of Basic and Advanced Geographic Information System (GIS) Training across the six partner cities of the Project.

Throughout the year, the CRC Project has conducted a five-day Basic GIS Training course for each of the cities of Batangas, Borongan, Cotabato, Iloilo, Legazpi, and Zamboanga. This translates to a total of 110 trained LGU officials and members of civil society organizations—exceeding the target for implementation by over 66% (110/60).

With respect to the Advanced GIS training, the CRC Project, also in collaboration with the Batangas State University, conducted the Batangas leg of the training on November 6-10, 2023. Succeeding Advanced GIS trainings are scheduled throughout 2024-2025 for the five remaining partner cities.

Said trainings are in support of the GIS workstations donated by the CRC Project through PDRF to the cities.

Ceremonial Signing of partnership between PDRF and Airlink



International Programme in DRR by the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency

In May, three (3) PDRF staff participated in the live workshop of the International Training Program in Disaster Risk Management in Stockholm, Sweden, sponsored by the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency and funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. Through the participants' change initiatives, the program aimed to strengthen the capacity of individuals and their organizations to manage disaster risk and institutionalize change. They were joined by representatives from various organizations in the Philippines, Cambodia, Nepal, and Bangladesh.

Benchmarking



Notable visits include partners from the private sector, government (OCD, DSWD, Lung Center of the Philippines, and various LGUs), member companies, and international organizations (UN, GIZ South to South Collab, World Bank, USAID-BHA, Canada Ambassador Hartman, SUPER Team, Bangladesh Preparedness Partnership). PDRF and its visitors shared insights on possible collaborations in disaster management.

Recognized as a global model for private sector engagement in disaster risk reduction and management, PDRF was also invited to numerous events in other countries to hear PDRF's work in private sector engagement in DRRM.

With Canadian Ambassador David Hartman during his visit to the PDRF Emergency Operations Center



Annex

2023 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

PHP 114,013, 260.00

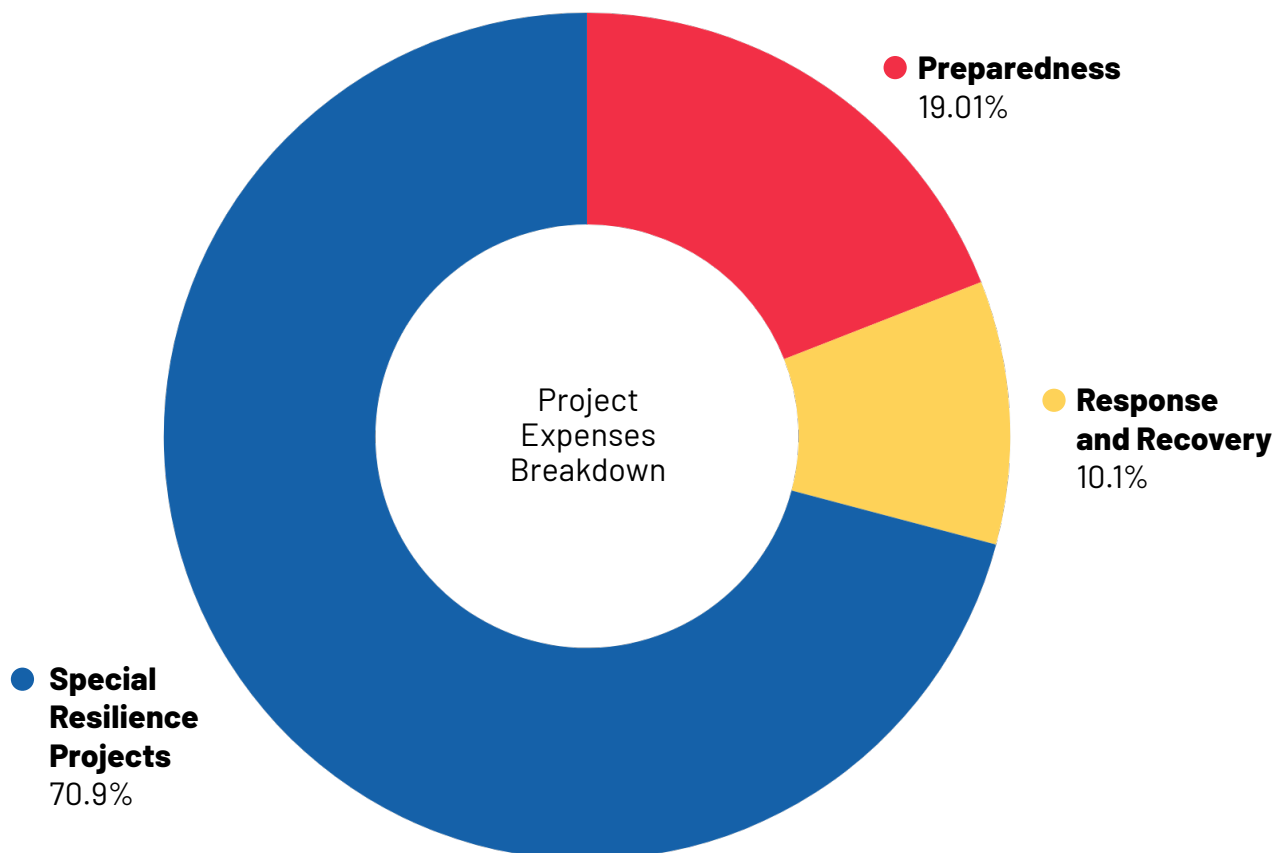
Grants and Donations

PHP 6,385,086.00

General and Administrative Costs

PHP 59,346,693.00

Project Expenses



Audited Financial Statement

INSTITUTIONAL DONORS



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 National Economic and Development Authority
 Nepal Preparedness Partnership
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 USAID - Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance
 USAID - Energy Secure Philippines
 USAID - Safe Water

ALLIANCES



Connecting Business initiative

PDRF is one of the members of the 13-country network of the Connecting Business initiative (CBI) launched by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and United Nations Development Program during the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul in 2016. CBI recognizes PDRF as a model for building local business disaster management networks around the world.



Asian Preparedness Partnership Philippine Preparedness Partnership

PHILPREP, composed of PDRF, the Center for Disaster Preparedness, and the Office of Civil Defense, is the localized tripartite platform of APP under the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the United States Agency for International Development – Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance.



National MSME Resilience Core Group

Established in 2016, the MSME Resilience Core Group is composed of the Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Science and Technology, Office of Civil Defense, Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Philippine Exporters Confederation, Employers Confederation of the Philippines, Asia Pacific Alliance for Disaster Management-Philippines, and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center. The group aims to strengthen the disaster resilience of MSMEs in the Philippines through the national roadmap and action plan.

HUMANITARIAN COUNTRY TEAM

UN Philippine Humanitarian Country Team

PDRF represents the private sector in the Philippine Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). It is a strategic and operational decision-making and oversight forum established and led by the Humanitarian Coordinator. Composition includes representatives from the UN, IOM, international NGOs, the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement. The HCT is responsible for agreeing on common strategic issues related to humanitarian action.



DisasterLink by Give2Asia

PDRF is one of the trusted partners of DisasterLink is a network of 51 non-profit members in 20 locations at high risk or vulnerability for natural disasters. Each pre-positioned member is highly invested in the areas they serve, enabling them to help communities rebuild and recover long after the immediate crisis is over.

PDRF LEADERS

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Chairman, PLDT/Smart

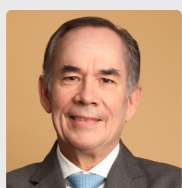


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PDRF 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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"Only together we can make true progress
towards a safer and more resilient planet."

Mami Mizutori, UNDRR

