

# Typhoon Haiyan

Typhoon Haiyan, known as Super Typhoon Yolanda in the Philippines, was one of the strongest tropical cyclones ever recorded. On making landfall, Haiyan devastated portions of **Southeast Asia**, particularly the Philippines.



## Key numbers

- 6,190 died
- 14.1 million people affected (4.8 already living in poverty)
- US\$12 billion overall damage
- 1 million farmers and 600,000 hectares of land destroyed
- 1.1 million crops destroyed
- 1.1 million houses damaged
- 4.1 million homeless

In November 2013, the Typhoon reached category 5 on the Saffir Scale, with winds up to 275km/h (170mph) and waves up to 15m.

## Primary effects

- Many drowned due to storm surge
- 90% of Tacloban city destroyed
- Airport badly damaged
- 30,000 fishing boats destroyed
- 400mm of rain caused widespread flooding.

## Secondary effects

- Many left homeless
- 6 million people with no income
- Flooding caused landslides and blocked roads
- Power supplies cut off for a month
- Ferry and plane services affected for months, slowing down aid effort
- Disease outbreaks due to no clean water
- Looting and violence occurred
- Jobs lost, hospitals damaged, shops and schools destroyed affecting people's livelihoods and education.



## Short term responses

- Aid agencies responded quickly with food, water etc
- US aircraft assisted in search and rescue
- Over 1200 evacuated to shelters
- UK sent shelter kits
- Field hospitals set up

## Long term responses

- UN countries donated financial aid, supplies and medical support
- Rebuilding infrastructure
- Cash for work programmes – people paid to clear up debris and rebuild the city
- Rice farming re-established quickly to create income
- Oxfam donated replacement fishing boats.
- Shelters built to accommodate people from evacuated areas.