

MICRONESIA – TYPHOON MAYSAK

FACT SHEET #3, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

APRIL 22, 2015

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

4

Confirmed Fatalities
Resulting from the Storm
Government of the Federated States
of Micronesia (GoFSM) Department
of Health and Social Affairs –
April 7, 2015

10

Persons Treated for
Storm-Related Injuries
GoFSM Department of Health and
Social Affairs – April 7, 2015

28,605

Typhoon-Affected People
in Chuuk State
GoFSM and U.S. Government (USG)
Preliminary Disaster Assessment
Team – April 13, 2015

1,100

Typhoon-Affected People
in Yap State
GoFSM and USG Preliminary
Disaster Assessment Team –
April 13, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- USG personnel continue to work closely with the GoFSM to determine further response options following the completion of a preliminary damage assessment (PDA) evaluating the impact of Typhoon Maysak in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).
- USAID/OFDA¹ is providing an additional \$2 million in humanitarian assistance, as well as emergency relief supplies from its warehouse in Dubai, to address the needs of typhoon-affected populations.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO FSM FOR TYPHOON MAYSAK TO DATE IN FY 2015

USAID/OFDA

\$2,295,233

\$2,295,233

TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO FSM FOR TYPHOON MAYSAK

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On April 17, FSM President Emanuel Mori submitted a request for a U.S. Presidential Disaster Declaration (PDD), noting the need for additional USG assistance to bolster the GoFSM's ability to respond effectively to the humanitarian effects of Typhoon Maysak. The PDD request follows the recent completion of a PDA, which found substantial storm damage across FSM's Chuuk and Yap states and identified critical needs for food and agricultural assistance, shelter support, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) supplies. [Note: Through its Compact of Free Association with the United States, the GoFSM is eligible to appeal for a PDD, for which the PDA is a prerequisite. If granted, a PDD would make available emergency relief and reconstruction funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the U.S. Small Business Administration, and other USG agencies.]
- To address priority humanitarian needs, USAID/OFDA is providing an additional \$2 million to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), USAID's primary implementing partner in FSM. With the funding, IOM will distribute locally procured food items, as well as shelter supplies, water treatment products, and water containers, to storm-affected populations.
- USAID/OFDA has also deployed water treatment supplies, water containers, and plastic sheeting from stocks pre-positioned at its warehouse in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The relief items—valued at approximately \$55,000—arrived in Chuuk and Yap on April 22 for onward distribution to households in need.
- In the typhoon's immediate aftermath, USAID/OFDA contributed an initial \$100,000 to IOM to distribute emergency relief items and offer basic WASH assistance to FSM's storm-affected households. USAID/OFDA also authorized IOM to utilize supplies procured with USAID/OFDA funding and held in IOM-managed warehouses in both FSM and neighboring Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) for response efforts.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

CURRENT SITUATION

- On April 17, personnel from USAID/OFDA, FEMA, and the U.S. Embassy in Kolonia met with FSM President Mori to discuss findings of the PDA that concluded on April 12.
 - According to the PDA, Typhoon Maysak destroyed at least 90 percent of crops and fruit trees, including staple foods such as breadfruit and taro, in affected areas across both Chuuk and Yap. As a result, approximately 29,000 people in FSM require temporary food assistance until short-cycle crops are replanted and reach productivity. Communities also need assistance with agricultural inputs—seeds, cuttings, and limited hand tools—to facilitate quick replanting.
 - In addition, Typhoon Maysak completely destroyed at least 281 homes and damaged at least 300 more; resulted in nearly \$8.5 million in damages to public infrastructure; and caused widespread damage to rain water catchment systems and water tanks, which households use to collect and store fresh water.
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NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

- On April 14, the GoFSM Office of Environment and Emergency Management—which is leading and coordinating national and international typhoon response efforts in FSM—reported that GoFSM patrol boat FSS *Independence* had reached northwestern areas of Chuuk Lagoon and the Upper Mortlock islands with food assistance. The ship delivered 390 fifty-pound bags of rice, 200 cases of ramen, and 1,135 cases of potable water.
 - The Government of the People’s Republic of China announced on April 21 the contribution of a \$500,000 cash grant to support GoFSM’s Typhoon Maysak response efforts.
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USG RESPONSE

- In Chuuk, USAID partner IOM has established water distribution points to help address critical water needs in more than 10 affected communities and is supporting the Chuuk Public Utility Corporation to pump potable water from ground wells on Chuuk’s main Weno Island through the provision of two portable generators. IOM has also provided the Chuuk State Department of Health Services and Department of Public Safety with approximately 10,000 water treatment tablets and supplemental oral rehydration salts.
 - In addition, IOM has been working to ensure that aid reaches storm-affected communities in the Faichuuk and other Chuuk Lagoon islands. As of April 20, IOM had delivered more than 11,000 pounds of locally procured food commodities and provided hygiene kits and tarpaulins to more than 300 families in these areas.
 - In Yap, a large-capacity, USAID/OFDA-funded water treatment unit has arrived on Ulithi’s most populous island, Falalop. With support from IOM and the Yap State Public Service Corporation, the unit—capable of producing 6,000 gallons of water per day—became operational on April 17 and is supplying safe drinking water to storm-affected populations.
 - IOM is also moving USAID/OFDA-purchased reverse osmosis machines from Majuro, RMI, to Yap and Chuuk, to serve as potential response options to potable water needs in the outer islands. Specialists from the Majuro Water and Sewer Company are accompanying the machines to assist with installation, maintenance, and operation instruction.
 - Beyond the Typhoon Maysak response, the USG continues to support the development of local and community-level disaster relief and preparedness capability in FSM. For example, USAID/OFDA has previously provided support to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to strengthen the capacity of the Micronesia Red Cross Society. Also, USAID/OFDA recently contributed \$350,000 to IOM to build the resilience of vulnerable communities in the FSM and the RMI to natural hazards. The program aims to reach at least 500 students and 5,000 community members with information on disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation, as well as support local and national government efforts to implement climate adaptation and disaster risk management activities.
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CONTEXT

- Typhoon Maysak, which initially developed into a tropical storm west of Pohnpei Island on March 27, rapidly intensified as it tracked westward across FSM. Between March 29 and April 1, Typhoon Maysak traversed FSM's Chuuk and Yap states, bringing destructive winds to several islands and reaching Yap's Ulithi Atoll and Fais Island as a super typhoon with sustained winds exceeding 160 miles per hour.
- On March 30, Chuuk Governor Johnson Elimo declared a state of emergency, while Yap Governor Tony Ganggiyan announced a state of emergency on April 1. As a result, FSM President Emanuel Mori issued a presidential emergency declaration for both locations.
- Immediately following the typhoon's passage, USAID/OFDA deployed staff to FSM to assess humanitarian conditions and help coordinate the USG response in collaboration with FEMA and other USG partners, GoFSM officials, and relief actors on the ground. On April 2, U.S. Ambassador to FSM Dorothea-Maria Rosen declared a disaster due to the effects of Super Typhoon Maysak.
- In November 2008, USAID assumed responsibility for disaster response and reconstruction in FSM from FEMA. USAID maintains FEMA's previous commitment to provide supplemental disaster assistance to GoFSM in the aftermath of significant disasters. USAID/OFDA collaborates closely with FEMA, as well as with USAID's Asia Bureau and USAID/Philippines, to implement disaster risk reduction and disaster response programs in FSM.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO FSM PROVIDED IN FY 2015¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
IOM	Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Affected Areas	\$2,100,000
	Transportation of USAID/OFDA Relief Items from Dubai to FSM	Affected Areas	\$173,771
	PDA Support Costs		\$21,462
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$2,295,233
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO FSM IN FY 2015			\$2,295,233

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of April 22, 2015. This funding figure does not include the cost of USAID/OFDA pre-positioned relief commodities utilized in the Typhoon Maysak response.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>