Overview of UN and Humanitarian Partners’ Response
Timor-Leste Emergency Development Partners’ Meeting
13 April 2021 (14:00 – 17:30)

Magnitude of the Disaster - Key Figures

According to official figures dated 12 April; preliminary data from the Task Force for Civil Protection and Natural Disaster Management

- 13 municipalities affected
- 25,022 total affected households across the country
- 4,384 total houses destroyed or damaged across the country
- 43 evacuation facilities in Dili
- 12,378 temporary displaced persons in evacuation facilities across Dili
- 46 fatalities, including 10 missing presumed dead
- 1,600 ha of rice & 295 ha of maize crops damaged in 6 municipalities alone (data source - MAF)
Humanitarian Funding

- Humanitarian donors (incl. Australia, China, EU, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Portugal, USA and UN) providing immediate, life-saving response through repurposing existing resources
- Nearly USD 6.2 million additional humanitarian funding mobilized to date (incl. Australia, UN, USA, China, New Zealand and the private sector)
- Many other humanitarian donors’ additional support in the pipeline

Immediate Response (4 – 11 April)

- Humanitarian partners started response on 4 April, made possible because of La Nina preparedness planning and first respondents (CVTL & local communities)
- Initial focus centered around addressing the priority lifesaving needs of the temporary displaced in the evacuation facilities in Dili including WASH, food & non-food items, and health and protection services
- Towards weekend, also include temporary displaced outside of the evacuation facilities, particularly in Tasi Tolu
- Starting to reach flood-affected, vulnerable people in other municipalities
- Additional rapid needs assessments ongoing
Early Lessons from the Immediate Response

- Humanitarian response must be **COVID-19 safe** – handwashing facilities, masks, hand sanitizers, avoid overcrowding evacuation facilities
- Collective respect for **Do No Harm** principle of humanitarian assistance – e.g. non-nutritious food items, breastmilk substitutes, bottles
- Response that strengthens – rather than undermine - **local capacities**
- **Participation** of women, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the response

Build Back Better & Recovery

- Beyond addressing immediate, life-saving humanitarian needs, partners to work towards **increasing resilience** of affected households and communities
- Integrate **disaster risk reduction** into recovery (improving physical infrastructure and urban planning, strengthening systems – including social protection systems - and environmental sustainability)
- If requested by the Government, **Post-Disaster Needs Assessment** (PDNA) is a robust and comprehensive tool that could inform Government’s medium-term recovery planning
Coordination, Coordination, Coordination

- Inter-ministerial coordination
- Coordination between the Government and humanitarian partners incl. donors
- Sectoral coordination, inclusive of local humanitarian actors
- Coordination with private sector and private citizens
- BUT coordination must enable implementation, i.e. simple & practical
- Daily coordination meetings to be short and focused
- Regular coordination meeting of larger group of humanitarian partners?
- Regular and continuous communication with the general public on the situation and the response is a must.