

The Philippines

Front lines of climate change impacts

The country is plagued by **food and nutrition security concerns**

Unnecessary stresses on the **coping mechanism** of many regions

Farmers – **the poorest sector**- always hardly hit



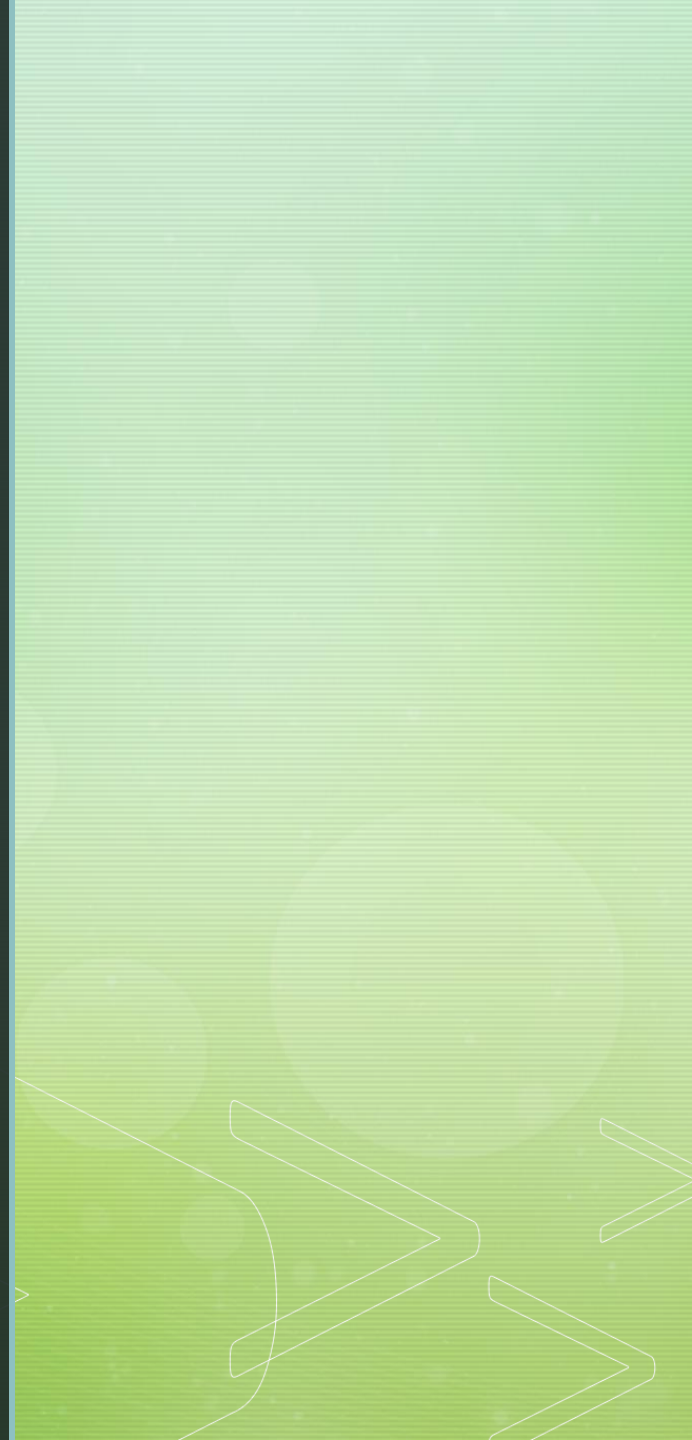


GREENPEACE

SPROUTING FROM DISASTER

Institutionalizing Farmer to Farmer
Ecological Seed Response
for a Sustainable and Ecological Seed and Food System
in the Philippines
A Greenpeace Philippines Policy Brief

Southeast Asia





“At this time of crisis, most farmers are at loss and don’t know how to rise again, we did not give back only seeds but also gave back to farmers their dignity – to be farmers again, who till the soil and produce food for their family and for all.”

- Mang Frankie Manigo of Tubigon, *Bohol one of the farmers who responded in the aftermath of typhoon Hagupit (2014).*

The Beginning

The typhoons:


Yolanda (2013)

Hagupit (2014)

Yolanda/Haiyan damage now at P9.46B
A week after Yolanda hits land, the country tries to rise even as it faces billions of pesos worth of damage

Pia Ranada
@pjaranada
Published 1:52 PM, November 16, 2013
Updated 2:55 PM, November 16, 2013

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TYPHOON RUBY/HAGUPIT

Ruby's damage to agriculture now P1.02B

The government gives assurances that there will be no surge in prices of major agricultural goods in Metro Manila

Rappler.com

Published 5:57 PM, December 08, 2014
Updated 5:58 PM, December 08, 2014

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LIMITED SUPPLY: A vendor sells her ware at a market in Legazpi City hours before Typhoon Ruby passes near the

Thousands evacuate as Typhoon Hagupit lashes Philippines

By **Ralph Ellis** and **Melissa Gray**, CNN
updated 1:14 AM EST, Sun December 7, 2014



People seek refuge inside a temporary evacuation center in Quezon City, Philippines, on Tuesday, December 9. Typhoon Hagupit tore apart homes and sent waves crashing through coastal communities across the eastern Philippines.

Typhoon Hagupit hits Philippines

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

NEW: Threat of flooding rises as the typhoon moves slowly across country

Mayor of Tacloban says 48,000 people moved to shelters

Affected by the storm? Send your photos to CNN iReport, but please stay safe

(CNN) -- A massive typhoon crept across central Philippines on Sunday, sending thousands of people into shelters and pouring heavy rain that heightened the risk of flooding and landslides.

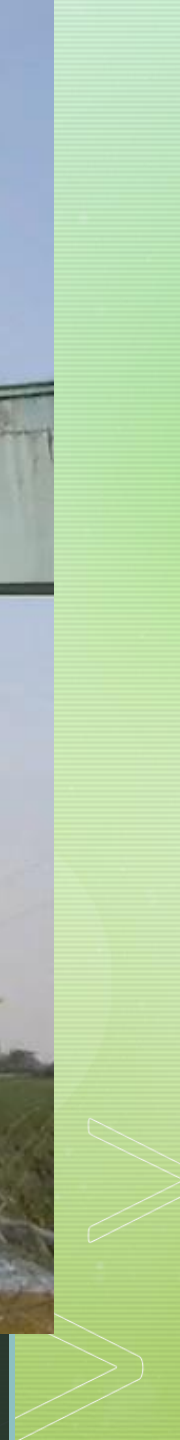
Farmers share seed of Hope





Typhoon Lando (2015)





El Nino (July 2016)



Tedurays and Lambangians of Maguindanao start rebound from El Niño with organic, non-GMO corn seeds and fertilizers

Press release - July 21, 2016

Cotabato City, Philippines; 20 July 2016 – Indigenous peoples of Maguindanao, who have been severely affected by the 2015-2016 double El Niño, take on the challenge of recovery as they start to plant, organic, non-GMO corn seeds this week.

Farmers from indigenous communities in Upi and South Upi, Maguindanao, have been asking the government since 2015 for immediate response to El Niño. But instead, the elections and constrained distribution of food and farm support to impacted farmers threw them further into hunger, malnutrition and indebtedness, aggravated by their use of GMO corn that requires expensive inputs.

"Three weeks into the new government and El Nino affected farmers still have no response from DA (Department of Agriculture) Secretary Emmanuel Piñol. They can no longer wait, so this week, 45 Teduray and Lambangian families have taken it upon themselves to secure non-GMO and organic corn seeds and organic fertilizers to jump-start their recovery and transition to a more climate-resilient and debt-free farming system," said Leonora Lava, Ecological Agriculture Campaigner of Greenpeace Southeast Asia – Philippines.

Kilusang Maralita sa Kanayunan (Kilos Ka) Maguindanao-Cotabato Cluster and Greenpeace Philippines are supporting the Teduray and Lambangian farmers' transition from GMO farming to ecological, climate resilient and debt free farming. The Teduray and Lambangian were affected by El Niño in early-2015, which resulted in poor harvests and, subsequently, not being able to pay their creditors on farm inputs – seeds, fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides. The farmers had to take out more loans for the succeeding cycle, but rats infested their farms and they had no recourse but to loan again in order to replant. By the third planting, drought, brought about by the second El Niño in the latter half of 2015 and early-2016, resulted in even poorer and, in some cases, no harvest at all. The series of crop failure have thrown them into hunger and indebtedness.

The farmers are now gearing up to contend with the possibility of La Niña (increased and more intense rainfall) that typically follows an El Niño. Maguindanao declared a state of calamity due to the effects of El Niño last April, but received only a few kilograms of rice per family because of the election ban.

"The challenge is to bring farming back to the control of farmers for the benefit farmers, not lenders and agro-chemical and seed companies. Local and indigenous farming communities also need to rediscover their local and indigenous knowledge of working with biodiversity for resilient



Reference only

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLY3_9SCID0

<http://www.greenpeace.org/seasia/ph/What-we-do/Food-for-Life/building-climate-resiliency/>

Typhoon Lawin (October 2017)



Our learnings:

- Increasing incidence of food emergencies brought about by the collapse of food supply from super typhoons and droughts
- First level of life saving response – medical assistance, evacuation, and immediate food and water needs
- Groups, individuals, government - rally for food which usually – rice, sardines, instant noodles: not nutritious; local preference, religion, social and cultural practices, and even age, are often overlooked.
- Uncoordinated efforts in food response among international organizations, govt agencies, and other donors - can further aggravate the situation
- Government seed distribution and farm packages for affected farmers come in much later stage of rehab.
- Most seeds come from pre-positioned seed buffer stock at the Agriculture department. Seeds are certified seeds produced by organized seed producers or seed companies.
- Private seed companies, via their 'corporate social responsibility work' also donate seeds, in the process promoting the use of their own products – intentionally or unintentionally changing the seed system.

Build back better with farmer-to-farmer ecological Seed Response

- ✓ Designed to support farmers' shift to eco-ag
- ✓ Bring back elements of cultural practices ('Sulagad' farming system by the Tedurays, an indigenous community, which works on mutual help and working with on-farm biodiversity for diverse food and resilience).
- ✓ Effort to regenerate, build back better and make accessible to farmers, diversified seeds that are necessary to build and empower climate-resilient farming communities, and to make them ready for future disasters.
- ✓ contributes to realizing Farmers' Rights to save, exchange, sell and use farm-saved seeds, and the protection of farmers' traditional knowledge for food and agriculture.



**MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT WORKED.
FARMERS SHOWED IT CAN BE
DONE, but it should be institutionalized.**

- Review existing policies and develop new ones to institutionalize the farmer-to-farmer ecological seed response as default response, and support the broader transition to a sustainable and ecological food system

For more details and for the copy of the Policy Brief please visit <http://www.greenpeace.org/seasia/ph/>

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying www.greenpeace.org/seasia/ph/press/reports/Sprouting-from-Disaster/. The page content includes:

- Article Title:** Sprouting from Disaster: Institutionalizing Farmer to Farmer Ecological Seed Response for a Sustainable and Ecological Seed and Food System in the Philippines
- Publication Date:** August 29, 2018
- Summary:** Climate change is making natural disasters more intense and frequent, which in turn cause periodic food emergencies and damage billions' worth of agriculture. In response, the government must review its policies and craft new ones so that farmers can help their fellow farmers who are affected by storms and drought to access diversified seeds. This will give rise to climate-resilient communities that are prepared to face future disasters.
- Media:** A video player showing a slide titled "SPROUTING FROM DISASTER" with the Greenpeace logo and a background image of a rice field.
- Navigation:** Social media sharing buttons (Like, Tweet, Email, Share, G+, Pin it) and a "SEE MORE" button with a notification badge.
- Right Sidebar:** A "Reports" section listing various topics such as "Coal, not cheap, not clean", "Briefing paper: Mindanao at..", "The Energy [R]evolution", "Turn the Tide Tour Schedule", "The Rainbow Warrior", "10 years of protecting the..", "Our climate and energy..", "Our achievements", and "Golden rice's lack of lustre". There is also a "Press Releases" section and a "Latest photos" gallery.
- Taskbar:** The bottom of the screen shows a Windows taskbar with various application icons.