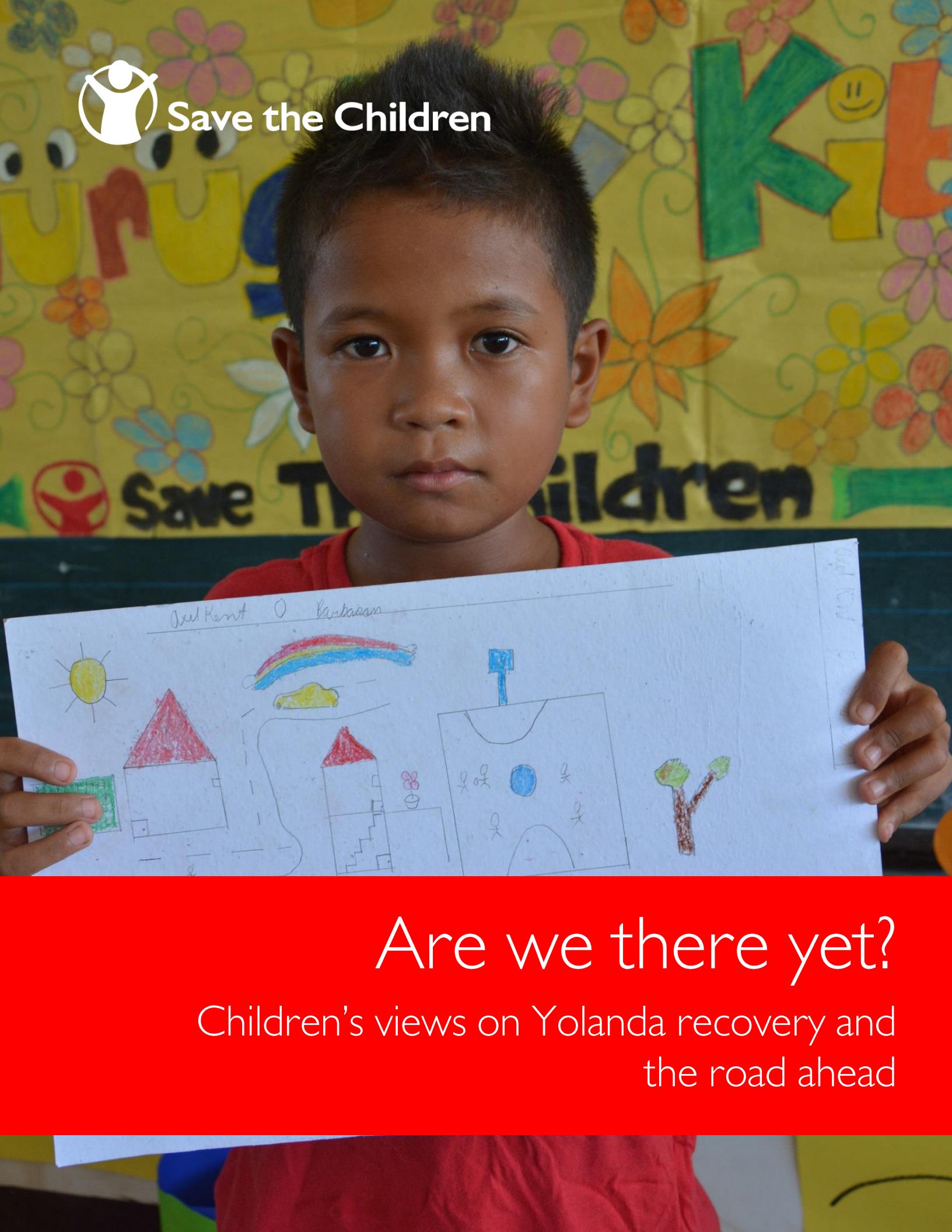




Save the Children



# Are we there yet?

Children's views on Yolanda recovery and  
the road ahead

## Acknowledgements

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This report reflects the views and voices of children affected by Typhoon Yolanda / Haiyan, who were consulted on 13-27 September 2014. Our acknowledgements to the children affected by the typhoon.

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## About Save the Children

Save the Children is the world's leading independent children's rights organization, with members in 29 countries and operational programs in 120. We fight for children's rights and deliver immediate and lasting improvements to children's lives worldwide.

Save the Children was established in the Philippines in 1981 and today is it one of the largest child rights organizations in the country.

## Abbreviations used in this report

|                 |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CFS             | Child Friendly Space                                                                                                                                                               |
| DRR             | Disaster Risk Reduction                                                                                                                                                            |
| ILECO           | Iloilo Electric Cooperative                                                                                                                                                        |
| MIRA            | Multi-Cluster Initial Rapid Assessment                                                                                                                                             |
| Children's MIRA | <a href="#"><u>After Yolanda: What children Think, Need and Recommend</u></a><br>based on consultation with children completed by Save the Children, Plan, World Vision and UNICEF |
| NDRRMC          | National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council                                                                                                                            |
| NGO             | Non-government organization                                                                                                                                                        |
| OPARR           | Office of the Presidential Advisor on<br>Reconstruction and Recovery                                                                                                               |
| PAGASA          | Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and<br>Astronomical Services Administration                                                                                                    |
| UN              | United Nations                                                                                                                                                                     |
| UNICEF          | United Nations Children's Fund                                                                                                                                                     |



Dear readers,

Elementary schools are gradually being repaired, and the houses are now being rebuilt. Trees are starting to sprout again, and the people are recovering.

Our house was rebuilt, and we have started to recover.

I am happy because we have started to recover from the devastation.

It is important that we are prepared in the future.

One year after the typhoon, I think it is important that we learn what to do in times of typhoons and other disasters.

Thank you for helping us out to recover. Thank you.

More blessings to come!

Krizia, 11 years old,  
Binon-an, Batad, Iloilo



## Summary of Findings

One year on from Typhoon Yolanda (international name Haiyan), children who survived the storm have looked back at the help they received and have given mixed reviews. In general, they are pleased with immediate actions taken by local government, and with the aid they received after the disaster, but they know recovery is a long way off and their expectations for life post Yolanda are high.

*This report is based on consultations with 162 children (90 girls, 72 boys), ages 6 to 17 years, consulted in Iloilo, Eastern Leyte and Western Leyte.*

This November 8, on the anniversary of the typhoon, children are saying that the job is not finished.

Their priorities are long term and they wish for more focus on: livelihoods, shelter, education, access to healthcare and increased participation for children in disaster risk reduction.

Children's key findings and priorities:

- **Livelihoods** – Poorer families (such as those in coconut and fishing dependent families) are getting poorer. Many children in these families feel hungry, and their families do not have enough money to restore their homes. Children say that more help is needed to ensure food security and income as there are simply no jobs. Subsistence farming is not possible for families who do not own land and day labor work is not in high demand. Some fisher families have not received help from government or aid agencies. Children worry about their parents and how their parents will cope if they cannot earn a living.
- **Shelter** – Some children still do not have adequate shelter. Many families still need building supplies and tools, or plots of land, to help meet basic shelter needs.
- **Health** – Children perceive that health services and medical supplies are inadequate. They have difficulty accessing drinking water, because there are not enough pumps, or pumps are far from their homes. Children feel this gap strongly because they are the ones expected to fetch water for the family.
- **Education** – Adolescents observed that support to education focused on elementary school children. Older children are worried that they will not be able to finish their secondary studies due to Typhoon Yolanda and do not view the aid supplied to them as sufficient. Some schools are still damaged, and younger children want school gardens to be a priority. Children appreciate and prioritize Child Friendly Spaces. They say they are needed when they do not have access to school, such as in emergencies like Yolanda.
- **Children's participation** – Children want to be systematically included, as participants, in disaster risk reduction programs, and wish for their views to be systematically collected in future rapid needs assessments, and evaluations.
- **Needs of girls** – Girls identified the need for hygiene kits to include sanitary materials. Girls, in particular, are very concerned about whether they will have access to further education.

**CHILDREN'S RECOMMENDATIONS ARE ON PAGE 16**

# Introduction

Typhoon Yolanda made landfall on the morning of 8 November 2013 in Guiuan, Eastern Samar in the Philippines. The trajectory of the storm, from Tacloban City in Leyte province, across the islands of Daanbantayan and Bantayan in Cebu province, across the provinces of Capiz and Iloilo on the island of Panay and finally across Palawan province, left over 1,000,000 homes damaged or destroyed, 90% of schools damaged in some areas, and 95% of buildings in the City of Tacloban devastated. Over 14 million people were affected, over 6000 people were killed and almost 1,000 are still reported as missing.

Widely reported to be the strongest typhoon to ever make landfall, with winds of 275 kph, its intensity remains unparalleled. International media attracted millions of dollars' worth of aid and assistance. The Government of the Philippines, highly experienced in disaster response and management, acted swiftly to support communities in the typhoon's path.

## Children's experience

Almost 6 million children were impacted by Yolanda.

But data, on its own, often fails to account for the experiences of children. For example, Yolanda's storm surge waters were recorded as "waist high", in some areas, despite water levels being higher than young children's heads. In all emergencies, children have distinct needs, face distinct threats and have their own recommendations to make based on these. Failure to consult with children risks the integrity, transparency and accountability of emergency response. It risks children's lives.

Child-need blindness was a feature of the Yolanda response from the outset. In December 2013, four child-focused aid agencies<sup>1</sup> noted this. In response, a children's consultation took place (informally called the "Children's MIRA"<sup>2</sup>). It proved that it is possible to rapidly consult with children after a calamity of this scale. It recommended that the Government of the Philippines and aid agencies include children in national response and recovery needs assessments in the future. It also recommended that large international aid agencies use the Philippines "Children's MIRA" as an advocacy tool to ensure that all children affected by 'UN Category Level 3' catastrophes around the world are consulted in needs assessments and enjoy their right to participation.<sup>3</sup>

**One year on from Typhoon Yolanda, children's needs and voices are still not systematically captured in government or aid agency data.**

This report presents the views of 162 children (90 girls, 72 boys), aged 6 to 17 years, consulted in Iloilo, Eastern Leyte and Western Leyte. Children ask that all government departments and all communities act urgently on these recommendations.

**Are we there yet? No. The road to recovery is long. There is much still to be done.**

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<sup>1</sup> The child-focused agencies are: Save the Children, World Vision, Plan and UNICEF.

<sup>2</sup> Save the Children, World Vision, Plan and UNICEF (2013), [After Yolanda: What children Think, Need and Recommend](#).

<sup>3</sup> Since Typhoon Yolanda in November 2013, L3 emergencies have been declared for humanitarian responses to the emergencies in Syria, Iraq, South Sudan and the Central African Republic.

# Methodology

## CONSULTATION METHODOLOGY

### Demographics and locations:

- 162 children consulted (90 girls, 72 boys) in 12 consultation groups
- Held in: Iloilo, Eastern Leyte and Western Leyte (Save the Children's areas of operation)
- 3 separate focus groups in each location
  - Girls and boys aged 6-9 years;
  - Boys and girls aged 9-12 years;
  - Girls and boys aged 13-17 years.
- Held between Saturday 13 September 2014 and 27 September 2014

### Activities:

- Children were asked to rate the Yolanda response. Children aged 9-12 and 13-17 years of age ranked these on a scale of 1 to 5 stars (with 1 star indicating poor response, and 5 stars indicating an excellent response). Younger children, aged 6-9 years rated the response on a smiley face scale of sad-neutral-happy.
- Children were asked to identify their current and future priorities.

*\*See: Annex Two – Full methodology, at the end of this report*

## Findings

### Children “grade” the Yolanda response (recommendations from Children's MIRA report)

Photo right: During the children's consultation, children affected by Typhoon Haiyan were requested to look into how government and humanitarian organizations implemented programs on various sectors which includes livelihood. In this photo, April rates the livelihood program of a certain aid agency with a score of 4.



## Mixed Reviews

### LIVELIHOODS



'Help farmers and fisher families recover their livelihoods'  
– 16% of 10-12 year olds in Ormoc

'The poorest families are worse off than before the typhoon'.  
– 16% of 10-12 year olds in Ormoc

*"We believe that the mentioned recommendations are still considered significant at this point in time. These serve to show what our current priorities are and our present life."*

*– Participant in group for children aged 6-9 years, Ormoc*

### SHELTER



71%

'Provision of construction materials so our parents could start rebuilding our houses'  
– half of 6-9 year old boys in Ormoc

71% of 6-9 year old girls in Ormoc felt "neutral" about government and aid agencies' actions in 'providing construction materials to rebuild houses'

### GIRLS SAY

4 out of 10

Girls in Tacloban (6-9 years) said they give the provision of girl-friendly sanitary materials in the hygiene kits (given out after Yolanda) only a 'neutral' grading. Additional consultation with girls about what they need in these kits should be included in any review of Yolanda response.

### EDUCATION

Most older children say

Older children in Tacloban are grateful for the school materials (bags, notepads, and pens) but said that the education response was not sufficiently focused on the needs of older children. Uniforms, shoes, school text books are needed by secondary school students.



Five stars or “happy”



100%

12 of 17 boys and girls

80% say

Food assistance - 100% of participants in Tacloban said they received adequate and tasty food assistance after December 2013.

Give five stars for the reconstruction and clean-up of Tacloban.  
– Children aged 13 to 17 years, Tacloban

Provision of school materials was adequate (books, pens and backpacks, notepads)  
– Children 10-12 years of age, Tacloban

47%

75%

7 of 8 girls

Say safety interventions were positive  
– increased patrol of tanods (local safety patrols) after Yolanda  
– Children aged 13 to 17 years, Tacloban

Provision of mosquito nets was appreciated.  
– 13-17 year olds, Estancia

Hygiene kits appropriate for girls  
– 7 out of 8, of the 13- 17 year old girls in Tacloban

100%



Child Friendly Spaces, 100% of participants “Having fun and playing games helps them forget bad memories of Yolanda”

‘School feeding programs are good’  
– 100% of boys and girls between 6 and 9 years of age in Estancia

## Three stars or “neutral”

100%



Of children said that 'health - access to doctors' appointments and medicine' received 3 stars.  
– 100% of children, 6-9 years, Estancia

Education: school reconstruction 'there are still many buildings in the different schools that are in need of repair and the repair took longer than anticipated', and 'we are still taking classes in tents'.  
– 10 to 12 year olds Estancia

## One stars or “sad”

100%

20%

8 of 9 boys

Said: “We did not receive regular medical appointments with a doctor when needed in the last 10 months”  
– 6-9 year olds, Estancia

Gave just one star for the provision of water supplies  
– 13-17 year olds in Ormoc

Livelihoods – “only some families were given support for livelihoods, and no support came to help farmers or bring back the sari-sari stores”  
– 8 out of 9 boys in Ormoc, ages 13-17

20%



50%

Provision of mosquito nets to protect from dengue was inadequate  
– 13-17 year olds in Ormoc

For repairs of school gardens and schools in Ormoc,  
– 6-9 year olds

Restoration of electricity took too long  
– 13-17 year olds in Estancia

## Children's priorities for the next 12 months

The events of 8 November 2013 are still present in children's minds. But, children say that government and aid agencies are slowly forgetting them. Children urge all agencies to stay focused on long term outcomes, including improving the health, wealth, safety and wellbeing of their communities.

### Livelihoods and food security

*"Our house still needs repair. My father also needs work. Sometime he has no job. Sometimes we do not have money or food."— Axel, age 9*

Children remain deeply concerned for the livelihoods of their parents. In December 2013, children's main priority was that parents received tools, training and jobs. One year on from Yolanda, these recommendations remain relevant. Due to lack of livelihoods, children are sometimes hungry, and they are deeply concerned for their parents' wellbeing, sense of pride and job opportunities.

#### SINCE YOLANDA THE POOREST CHILDREN ARE GETTING POORER

Coconut growing communities in Western Leyte have experienced big changes in livelihoods and food security since Yolanda. The very poor are now only just meeting their survival needs, and no groups are meeting their livelihood protection needs.

Poor and very poor families have changed their livelihood coping strategies to address this. The very poor have lost almost half of their agricultural labor opportunities after Yolanda (due the loss of coconut and abaca production, resulting in fewer days of employment), and are coping through self-employment such as selling charcoal and 'umbak' (in the form of crop advances acting as a credit line). Alongside the shifts in livelihood strategies, changes continue to occur in local economies, affecting trade. Coping strategies to deal with these changes include: household reduction in food expenditure, in other expenditure, and increased out migration. Whereas previously older children from the very poorest families would migrate, now young people from poor families are also migrating for work. The reduction in agricultural labor (due to farm owners working their own land rather than hiring staff) has had a highly detrimental effect on food security for the poorest families. This is matched with an increased reliance on credit for very poor and poor families. All groups are meeting their survival thresholds post Yolanda, but this will deteriorate for the very poor and poor by November 2014 due to unsustainable livelihood coping strategies.

In Leyte, urban and peri-urban coastal families have reduced capital after Yolanda, and in the sari-sari stores that have re-opened there are lower levels of profit. Middle income groups in these areas will likely be in a stable position in the coming months, however the very poor will only just be able to sustain their minimum household survival needs.

The initial humanitarian response to Yolanda was praised for stabilizing household economies and revitalizing local markets. These changes helped many families to meet basic food and non-food needs. However, given the short duration of certain forms of support (most are now discontinued), as well as concentrations of aid in certain areas such as Tacloban City, a solid foundation for recovery programming has not been established for the poorest households affected. From now on, income and food security gaps are likely to be much more pronounced unless greater and more targeted livelihood interventions are implemented.

*Adapted from Save the Children Rapid Household Economy Approach studies in Eastern Leyte (urban and peri-urban coastal zones) and in Western Leyte (upland coconut and rain-fed rice zone)*

## Education

*“Our school was damaged. The classroom of the kinder and grade 3 students were damaged. The roofs were blown away by the wind. The books and the chairs were also damaged. I was sad that time, worrying how we will study after the typhoon, and how we will recover.”*

*- 11 year old girl, Iloilo*

For many children, interrupted schooling is still a barrier to wellbeing. Prior to Yolanda, children spent a great deal of their time at school, in the company of teachers and friends. After Yolanda children took on new roles, and it took many months for some children to resume their education.

One year on, children say that not all schools have been repaired, and younger children are concerned with the state of school gardens, which have been slow to recover, but which are “now much better”.

*“My needs now – first and foremost is our house. And lastly is a scholarship to go to college so can become successful. I do not want to grow up without going to school.” – Mary Joy, 12 years old*

Older children worry that Typhoon Yolanda will impact on their access to secondary and tertiary education, which has now been derailed by their interrupted schooling and competing demands of their families as they try and recover. Older children also noted that they need greater support – beyond school supplies – to achieve their dreams.

Children want their views about education response to be systematically collected, and recommend that those responsible for education (such as Department of Education officials and Save the Children) conduct a broad review of classrooms still in need of repair one year on from Yolanda and immediately make sure they are fixed. Older children want support to continue their studies.

## Playtime and Child Friendly Spaces

*“I am happy whenever I am at the child friendly space. We feel as if no super typhoon hit us. We forget our problems at home.”*

*– 11 year old girl, Ormoc*

The terrible psychosocial impacts of Typhoon Yolanda on children are now well documented. Many children continue to suffer nightmares, feelings of grief and loss, concentration problems and negative traumatic reactions.

Children, as a group, have also demonstrated their enormous resilience in the face of Yolanda. Children said that Child Friendly Spaces (CFSs) were important to them, and that CFSs help them to cope, to build resilience and to be more equipped for the future.

## Health care

*“The doctors came to our community only once. There was medicine, but the supplies are not enough now”*

– Ormoc, child aged 9-12 years

Children say health systems prior to Typhoon Yolanda were already inadequate, inaccessible because of long distances to clinics, limited health staff, and limited outreach programming.

In the immediate aftermath of Yolanda, health care and mobile health services were present (and highly visible). Children witnessed large number of doctors, lots of medicines and vaccination drives, as well as nutrition assessments. But now, a year later, children say that the most basic of medical check-ups are not available, or not accessible.

All children (all ages, all groups, boys and girls) say that medicine shortages is a big concern, and that their families cannot even get paracetamol when needed.

## Safety

Children identified restoration of their personal safety as a priority. A sense of safety is first and foremost about safe environments: safe houses, safe schools, and safe public spaces within communities that are planned around environmental hazards.

The ongoing lack of adequate shelter makes children sad and upset. Some of the participants still live in partially built houses. Families that are struggling to find work are struggling to rebuild their homes.

Children also say that their parents' jobs, and crop inputs, are a key priority in increasing children's safety, including their housing and food security. 12 months after Yolanda, families risk losing their food security entirely.

*“After the typhoon, I think I got stronger because I learned a lot. Of all the typhoons that hit us, Typhoon Yolanda was the strongest this far.”*

– Mary, 12 years, Telegrafo, Dulaga, Leyte

Children related feeling safe directly to the ideas of feeling prepared for another event like Typhoon Yolanda. Children value their new knowledge about typhoons, evacuation procedures, and how to prepare and respond to future threats and hazards.

Children say that family-level and community evacuation plans make them feel safer and they want new evacuation centers (which are not schools). However, many say that if disaster strikes at night, they will feel scared and won't know how to respond. Therefore, one way of helping children 'feel safe' is education about disasters and disaster risk reduction (DRR). Now that they have this new



knowledge children want this to be exercised regularly in community drills and readiness days. One year on, children are still not systematically included in disaster risk reduction policies, in hazard mapping, nor in post-disaster needs assessments and recovery plans.

In some barangays in Estancia, children are concerned with their physical safety. They have stated that they do not feel safe at night, because they believe that the *tanods* (local safety patrols) are not patrolling as much as children would like them to. Children did note that tanods are “always there when you need them”. Children say tanods might not adequately know about the needs of children and should be trained to know them.

### WHAT MAKES YOU FEEL SAFE?

#### Barriers to feeling safe

- "Our family is not yet safe because our house is still roofless, the windows are still damaged, I am afraid for my family's safety"
- "I think my family won't be safe anymore because if another typhoon like Yolanda would come and would hit during the night, we would not survive"
- "I cannot assure our safety because if ever a typhoon comes again and my family evacuates, we are still unsure of our safety because maybe the evacuation center is also vulnerable"
- "I am sure that my family is not safe if ever another typhoon hits us because we no longer have a place to evacuate to."

#### Facilitators to feeling safe

- "My family would be safe because we have learned techniques on how to be safe and where to hide if ever another typhoon hits"
- "We have to evacuate to a safe place for us to be safe and to bring along cooked food/food supplies for us not to go hungry; we also have to secure a flash light"
- "Our family should listen to the news on the radio and the barangay officials who have warned us regarding the coming super typhoon"
- "Yes, we will be safe next time because *our house is better and more durable than before*"

### TAKE ACTION TO HELP CHILDREN!

#### *#HB5062 Children in Emergencies*

*Consultations with children after Yolanda were done by NGOs and were limited in scope. In the future, we'd like to see children consulted by the Government of the Philippines and the UN. We'd like to see children be part of post-disaster assessment as well as Disaster Risk Reduction planning.*

*Save the Children, together with children's champions in the House of Representatives, has put forth a bill (HB 5062) that will help ensure children are protected, prioritized and consulted in future emergencies.*

#### *Can you help? Can you show your support? Here's how:*

- Convince your district Representative or Senator to co-author the bill
- Organize a signature campaign in your community or school
- Write an article of support for your local newspaper
- Online – tweet your message of support and hashtag it. **#HB5062**

## Are we there yet? No, and we need YOUR help!

Children have witnessed and experienced firsthand the capacity of local government departments and barangay officials to deliver relief. The country's youngest constituents have full faith that their priorities can be met by government officials and formal systems.

When asked who was responsible for helping children to implement their recommendations boys and girls said:

"Our mayor and barangay officials should help us in our needs" and "government and NGOs should work together after a typhoon because we cannot do it alone".



Children are also directly calling on the following to take action:

- The President
- All government officials
- PAGASA to make early warning systems that we understand
- Department of Social Welfare (DSDW) to protect us
- Military actors to help clean up and build things
- Police and *tanods*
- Nurses and doctors
- Non-government organizations
- Our teachers
- Our parents
- Our communities

Are we there yet? No, and we need your help!

*"I am glad we are together in this activity and thank you for helping us share our opinions. I just wish all the children in our barangay would have been able to join in this consultation. Thank you"*

# Children's recommendations

## Livelihoods

- Government and NGOs must give more financial, livelihoods and food security supports to poor and very poor families, and review the local economics in coconut dependent and fishery dependent communities in order to plan these interventions.

## Shelter

- Government agencies need to prioritize the reconstruction of housing/shelter, including giving tools, shelter materials and land to families in need.

## Disaster risk reduction and safety

- Government-led mechanisms need to formally involve children in municipal disaster risk reduction plans, hazard mapping and evacuation planning must be established. Children call on the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) to establish a national disaster preparedness day – within disaster consciousness month. On this day, all offices, workplaces, schools and communities should practice evacuation at once.
- Families should discuss and make disaster readiness plans with their children. Families should be given watertight bags or laminated identification documents and watertight containers for clothes of food.
- Tanods and other security patrols should receive further training on working with children, referral and reporting and child safeguarding.

## Health

- The Department of Health should strengthen health systems, and create child health information and health literacy programs in all Yolanda affected areas. Department of Health should conduct a review of the impact of Yolanda on health care service usage, on demand for medicine, on accessibility of clinics before and after the disaster.
- Basic medicine stocks should be replenished where they are found to be in shortage.

## Education

- Department of Education should review education response for older children affected by Yolanda, and implement changes to the standard education kits given to older children based on feedback from older children in this report, and should ensure that the analysis is sensitive to the experiences of boys and girls.
- Department of Education need to invest in a broad lessons learned review after Yolanda (and other emergencies like the Bohol Earthquake) with a particular emphasis on how education programs and services were coordinated, in order to identify whether coordination of education services can be broader and faster in times of emergency, and so that small and local organizations, private sector actors and international NGO roles are coordinated to minimize discrepancies.

## Participation of children in emergency assessments, monitoring and evaluation

- The widespread failure of all actors to systematically consult with children remains unaddressed in the Yolanda response. It is a systematic failure in all major humanitarian emergencies around the world. This gap needs to be met by Governments and by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) members through specific new protocols, and increased will to engage children. These measures must be resourced, and need to go beyond the protocols that exist on paper which are not adequately child friendly.

## Annex I: Consultation Methodology

Consultations were held with 162 children and young people (90 girls, 72 boys) in Iloilo, Eastern Leyte and Western Leyte (Save the Children's areas of operation). The method was participatory and experiential. In each of the 3 locations, 3 separate focus groups were convened drawing on a local cross-section of children: the first was for boys and girls aged 6-8 years (and adjusted to ages 6-9 years in the next location); the second was for children aged 9-12 years (adjusted to 10-12 years); and the final consultation was for young people aged 13-17.

The consultations took place on the following dates, with the following group size, age and gender breakdown:

1. Iloilo – Saturday, September 13, 2014

- Ages 6-8: Total 11 (5 female, 6 male)
- Ages 9-12: Total 20 (11 female, 9 male)
- Ages 13-17: Total 20 (12 female, 8 male)

*\*After this consultation the age groups were adjusted to ensure age-appropriate and adequate group sizes.*

2. Western Leyte – Saturday, September 20, 2014

- Ages 6-9: Total 13 (7 female, 6 male)
- Ages 10-12: Total 18 (11 female, 7 male)
- Ages 13-17: Total 25 (16 female, 9 male)

3. Eastern Leyte - Saturday, September 27, 2014

- Ages 6-9: Total 18 (10 female, 8 male)
- Ages 10-12: Total 19 (10 female, 9 male)
- Ages 13-17: Total 18 (8 female, 10 male)

The consultation was devised by local and international child rights governance experts, and included the following activities. Data was captured through direct documentation of the session.

1. **Introduction:** After the initial registration, children joined their age group. Once in group, facilitators helped children to voice their expectations of the session, the house rules and also to identify any environmental hazards or risks inside the building, or outside the child friendly environment.
2. **Review of the previous consultation findings – the consultations held in December 2013 called the Children's MIRA:** Children discussed the typhoon, and the previous Children's MIRA findings and added anything that they felt has been missing or new reflections of what they anticipated before during and after the typhoon. Some facilitators opted not to talk about the typhoon to the 6-9 year old age group and told allegorical stories instead. The 10-12 year old children and 13-17 year old young people discussed the previous consultations and employed drawing, pantomime, or theatre to recount their Yolanda experiences.
3. **Assessment of the Status of Children's Recommendations:** Boys and girls of 6 to 9 years of age were asked to respond to the recommendations from the previous consultation (held in December 2013), with a happy, straight, or sad face and then give their reasoning for whether they think that the recommendation had been met or not, or whether it remained a priority. Children ages 10-12 years and girls and boys of 13-17 years divided into

3 groups and were asked to rate the recommendations with a ranking of 0 to 5 stars (5= the best, 1 = the worst, 0 = do not know/no response) and then presented their findings and their reasoning. Methods included filling out a Facebook page with their responses and shooting a paper ball at a basket labelled with the corresponding stars. Facilitators used “energizer” songs and games every 30 minutes or so to keep the children focused on the activities and positive given the content.

4. **Follow up questions:** Children were asked a series of questions and were given discussion time to identify what their needs now (disaggregated by gender) (what), who should be in charge of meeting these needs (who/how) and how prepared they feel for another typhoon (so what). Children drew their hopes for their community on posters, which were presented in a gallery at the end of the consultation.
5. **Conclusion activities:** Children completed the presentations and gave feedback on how useful or not they found the consultation, whether they had enjoyed their time, and what they liked best.

## Annex II: One Year after Typhoon Haiyan: Save the Children stands with affected communities over the long term

### Response Snapshot

Save the Children was one of the first humanitarian agencies on the ground when Haiyan struck central Philippines, delivering aid quickly and efficiently even though roads, airports and other vital infrastructure had been damaged. We remain the largest aid agency in some of the hardest hit areas.

It has been one year since the typhoon came ashore, and Save the Children has reached nearly 800,000 children and adults with essential life-saving aid, recovery and rehabilitation support. We have distributed families food and water; provided medicines and primary health services through our mobile health clinics; repaired classrooms, health facilities and water systems; and provided shelter, household and hygiene items to keep children safe.

Although children, families and communities are slowly recovering, the needs on the ground are still overwhelming. In some of the hardest hit areas, thousands of families continue to live in temporary shelters and are struggling to recover the livelihoods they once depended on.

As we have now transitioned from relief work to rehabilitation, Save the Children continues to support these vulnerable families to help them overcome the long term impact of Haiyan. Where there are needs, Save the Children provides cash transfers and community grants and skills development trainings to help recover livelihoods and fuel local economy.

For the Philippines, future disasters are not only inevitable but are also expected to intensify because of climate change. Save the Children's response is therefore not only to support recovery effort for Haiyan, but to also help communities prepare, cope with and adapt for future disasters.

### Our Impact in Numbers

Save the Children works in Eastern and Western Leyte, operating from two offices, Tacloban and Ormoc, where we work with remote communities who reported every single house being destroyed by Haiyan. On the island of Panay, our field base in Estancia, Iloilo serves remote islands and fishing communities, who, amongst other things, lost their boats and therefore their livelihoods.

#### Complementing Food Gap & Restoring Livelihoods

After 'Haiyan', many of the fishing boats, valuable crops and coconut plantations were destroyed, disrupting food supply, driving inflation rates up and leaving many without the means to support their families. In response, Save the Children has:

- Distributed rice to over 40,000 households and provided cash grants and vouchers to 23,000 households, which helped families buy food and other essential necessities.
- Supported farmer associations in clearing irrigation canals and provided them with essential farming equipment (i.e. hand tractors, paddy thresher), allowing them to cultivate rice



following the typhoon.

- Held carpentry training sessions and distributed boat repair kits to fisher folks to help replace destroyed boats
- Provided recovery cash grants allowing workers to buy the materials and resources they need to re-build their livelihoods, including seeds and livestock.

Our Plans:

- Linking farmer and fisher folk associations with the trade department to help them expand distribution of their produce and catch.
- Encouraging farmers to grow new crops (crop diversification) and grow different crops side-by-side (intercropping) is an important method of helping vulnerable communities recover and survive future disasters – especially for coconut farmers whose plantations were destroyed by Haiyan.

## Sheltering Families

Haiyan damaged and destroyed more than a million houses, leaving millions of people homeless. In the immediate aftermath and through the recovery phase, we have:

- Provided over 40,000 households with emergency shelter kits containing basic tools, materials and tarpaulin for families to temporarily fix their houses.
- Distributed nearly 50,000 household kits, containing blankets, cooking pots and kitchen utensils.
- Launched shelter assistance program that is helping over 9,000 households rebuild safer homes with cash grants, materials with which to do repairs and appropriate training.
- Provided training to more than 800 carpenters, as well as community members, with safe construction techniques taught to help people rebuild homes in their own communities.

Our Plans:

- Support affected communities in rebuilding safer homes, given how vulnerable to extreme weather these communities are.
- Provide cash grants, materials, and training and technical assistance.
- An education program for schoolchildren will help them to understand the fundamentals of what helps to make a house a safer home

## Providing Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Haiyan damaged many of the water pipelines and sanitation facilities and contaminated much of the water supply. Poor water, sanitation and hygiene have been known to cause health problems among children in the aftermath of a natural disaster.

Since then, we have:

- Reached over 400,000 people, with water, sanitation and hygiene interventions. These include hand-washing facilities, the building of new toilets and clean water tanks
- Distributed nearly 45,000 hygiene kits, including essentials items such as jerry cans, water

- purification tablets and treatment kits.
- Constructed over 7500 latrines for households and schools, repaired water systems and conducted hygiene promotion activities.

#### Our Plans:

- Develop innovative hygiene promotion projects so that children can serve as ambassadors, leading efforts to promote good hygiene in their communities. This will engage other children in the recovery process and help to disseminate information widely.
- Continue supporting affected communities in achieving 'Zero-Open Defecation' (ZOD) status where all community members have access to toilet and don't have to go in the open air.

### Protecting Children from Harm

Children in the hardest hit areas have suffered from psychological distress having lived through extremely difficult conditions, witnessing the loss of their loved ones, the destruction of their homes, schools and communities. Save the Children's response strategy not only supports the recovery of children but ensures that child protection mechanisms are in place in other disaster-prone areas. Therefore, we have:

- Supported drafting and campaigning for 'Children's Emergency Relief and Protection Act', a new bill that calls for a comprehensive plan to be put in place to protect the rights of children in disasters and emergencies. The bill was based on the issues raised by children affected by Yolanda in a series of consultations organized in partnership with other child-focused groups. The bill is currently filed in Congress and once passed will help reach all Filipino caught in disasters and even conflicts.
- Established 75 Child Friendly Spaces – safe and conducive play areas for children attended by trained care providers and community facilitators to help children recover from the painful experiences during and immediately after the typhoon. Here, children learn about how to socialize with others, how to protect themselves from harm and health risks (i.e. topics on good hygiene practices and basic human rights) and how to prepare for future disasters. To date, our child friendly spaces have provided help to over 45,000 children since Haiyan hit.
- Conducted psychosocial support training with parents and caregivers, helping adults identify when a child may be in need of help and guidance – and what that should be.

#### Our Plans:

- We will continue to work with communities and children to promote awareness of child protection issues and helping them prepare for future disasters.

### Getting Children Back to School

Haiyan either damaged or destroyed nearly 100% of schools in some of the worst hit areas (i.e. 17,500 schools and 2,500 daycare centers). Thousands of educational materials, teaching aids and school furniture were washed away by typhoon surge and winds. Save the Children prioritized getting children back to school by quickly setting up temporary learning spaces, training teachers and undertaking repairs of classrooms.

So far we have:

- Set up 102 temporary learning spaces and repaired 203 classrooms in schools and day care centres.
- Distributed over 50,000 school bags to children, along with teacher tools, educational materials and recreational materials.
- Trained and supported 1800 teachers to help children deal with their experiences and prepare for future disasters.

Our Plans:

- Continue training teachers and students to respond to future disasters and support repairs to schools and help replace learning materials.

### Improving Access to Health and Nutrition Services

Over 1 million people lost access to full health services when Haiyan destroyed over 90 percent of health facilities in the worst-affected areas. Some highlights of our work include:

- 40,000 consultations carried out by our mobile health units in some of the worst hit and remote areas. Our services range from primary health services, counseling and education on reproductive health, breastfeeding and complementary feeding, among others
- Over 40,000 screenings of mothers and children for malnutrition
- Reached over 30,000 children with supplementary feeding programmes to ensure their recovery.
- Providing hospitals and village health stations with medical supplies, equipment and training of health staff.

Our Plans:

- Strengthen psychosocial services for children and the health care system more broadly to achieve universal coverage of essential health services.

## Moving forward

Various stakeholders such as governments, both local and national, civil society, the UN and aid agencies play a vital role in ensuring affected communities overcome the long-term impact of Haiyan. Beyond the first year of the response, Save the Children will continue to engage the different stakeholders to:

- Ensure rehabilitation work is responsive to the needs of the most vulnerable, particularly children, and is adequately resourced and fast-tracked.
- Urge policymakers to pass and act upon the 'Children's Emergency Relief and Protection' bill and similar laws that allow greater investments on preparedness and Disaster Risk Reduction interventions
- Uphold children's right to dignity, protection and participation in decision-making, especially in the aftermath of disasters.

## Acknowledgments

Save the Children would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of Leyte and Panay and the survivors of Typhoon Yolanda for working with us over the past 12 months, for giving their time, for sharing their stories and for welcoming us into their communities.

To all of our donors and stakeholders we would like to thank you for your generous support. It is thanks to you all that we have been able to reach nearly 800,000 people across the Visayas and can continue to work with communities in recovery and rehabilitation for years to come.

To DFATD (Australia), Save the Children Australia, DFATD (Canada), Save the Children Canada, Save the Children Japan, Seoul Metropolitan Government, Save the Children Korea, SHO (Netherlands) , Save the Children Netherlands, Save the Children New Zealand, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Norway), Save the Children Norway, ECHO (European Commission Humanitarian Office) , Save the Children Spain, Save the Children Sweden, Sida (Sweden) , UNICEF, DfID (UK), Save the Children UK, UNFPA, Save the Children Switzerland, FFO Germany, Save the Children Germany, DEC (UK) , Unilever, WHO, Comic Relief, Halaby Murphy Foundation, Save the Children US, Walt Disney Company, Gates Foundation, Hong Kong Government, UN World Food Programme, MacArthur Foundation, Bezos Foundation, David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Hewlett Packard Foundation, Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Merlin, CCK (Korea), The Center for Disaster Philanthropy, UBS Optimus Foundation: Maraming salamat.

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For more information about Save the Children's work in the Philippines and to hear more about the stories behind the photos please visit us at [www.savethechildren.org/ph/donate](http://www.savethechildren.org/ph/donate).





 **Save the Children**



Alerto: Pagandam hin "emergency supplies"  
ha tagsa-tagsa na panimalay.



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