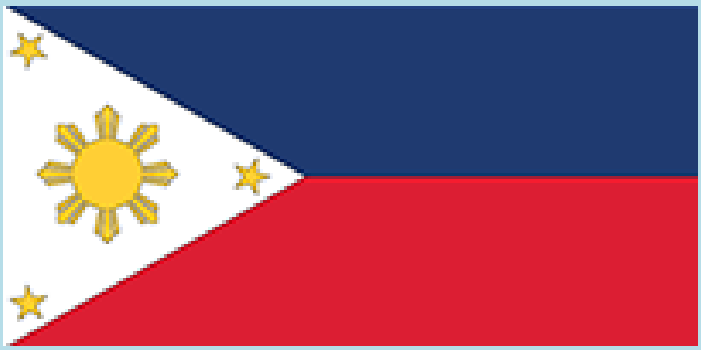
PHILIPPINES



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1. NATIONAL PROFILE

1.1 General[1]

The Philippines is one of the world's largest archipelago nations. It is situated in Southeast Asia in the Western Pacific Ocean. Its islands are classified into three main geographical areas – Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. Because of its archipelagic nature, Philippines is a culturally diverse country. With its topography consisting of mountainous terrains, dense forests, plains, and coastal areas, the Philippines is rich in biodiversity. It is considered as one of the mega biodiversity countries in the world with a high percentage of flora and fauna endemism.

1.2 Physiography[2]

The Philippines is an archipelago of 7,107 islands with a total land area, including inland bodies of water, of approximately 300,000 square kilometers (115,831 sq mi). Its 36,289 kilometers (22,549 mi) of coastline makes it the country with the 5th longest coastline in the world. It is located between 116° 40', and 126° 34' E. longitude and 4° 40' and 21° 10' N. latitude and is bordered by the Philippine Sea to the east, the South China Sea to the west, and the Celebes Sea to the south. The island of Borneo is located a few hundred kilometers southwest and Taiwan is located directly to the north. The Moluccas and Sulawesi are located to the south-southwest and Palau is located to the east of the islands.

Most of the mountainous islands are covered in tropical rainforest and volcanic in origin. The highest mountain is Mount Apo. It measures up to 2,954 meters (9,692 ft) above sea level and is located on the island of Mindanao. The Galathea Depth in the Philippine Trench is the deepest point in the country and the third deepest in the world. The trench is located in the Philippine Sea. The longest river is the Cagayan River in northern Luzon. Manila Bay, upon the shore of which the capital city of Manila lies, is connected to Laguna de Bay, the largest lake in the Philippines, by the Pasig River. Subic Bay, the Davao Gulf, and the Moro Gulf are other important bays. The San Juanico Strait separates the islands of Samar and Leyte but it is traversed by the San Juanico Bridge.

1.3 Climate[2]

The Philippines has a tropical maritime climate and is usually hot and humid. There are three seasons: tag-init or tag-araw, the hot dry season or summer from March to May; tag-ulan, the rainy season from June to November; and tag-lamig, the cool dry season from December to February. The southwest monsoon (from May to October) is known as the Habagat, and the dry winds of the northeast monsoon (from November to April), the Amihan. Temperatures usually range from 21 °C (70 °F) to 32 °C (90 °F) although it can get cooler or hotter depending on the season. The coolest month is January; the warmest is May.

The average yearly temperature is around 26.6 °C (79.9 °F). In considering temperature, location in terms of latitude and longitude is not a significant factor. Whether in the extreme north, south, east, or west of the country, temperatures at sea level tend to be in the same range. Altitude usually has more of an impact. The average annual temperature of Baguio at an elevation of 1,500 meters (4,900 ft) above sea level is 18.3 °C (64.9 °F), making it a popular destination during hot summers.

1.4 Socio-economic Profile[3, 4]

Socio-economic Indicators		
GDP: Gross domestic product (million current US$)	2011	846834
GDP per capita (current US$)	2011	3495.0
GNI: Gross national income per capita (current US$)	2011	3395.0
Population (millions)	2014	98.39
Urban (% of population)	2014	49.29
Sex ratio (males per 100 females)	2012	99.4
Life expectancy at birth (females/males, years)	2010-2015	71.8/68.3
Adult literacy rate (% ages 15 and older)	2014	95.4
Expenditure on education (% of GDP)	2014	2.65

1.4 Administrative Setup[2]

The Philippines is divided into three island groups: Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. These are divided into 17 regions, 81 provinces, 144 cities, 1,491 municipalities,

and 42,028 barangays. In addition, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 5446 asserts that the definition of the territorial sea around the Philippine archipelago does not affect the claim over Sabah.

Region	Designation	Administrative Center
Ilocos Region	Region I	San Fernando, La Union
Cagayan Valley	Region II	Tuguegarao
Central Luzon	Region III	San Fernando, Pampanga
CALABARZON (Southern Tagalog Mainland)	Region IV-A	Calamba
MIMAROPA (Southern Tagalog Islands)	Region IV-B	Calapan
Bicol Region	Region V	Legazpi
Western Visayas	Region VI	Iloilo
Central Visayas	Region VII	Cebu
Eastern Visayas	Region VIII	Tacloban
Zamboanga Peninsula	Region IX	Pagadian
Northern Mindanao	Region X	Cagayan de Oro
Davao Region	Region XI	Davao
SOCCSKSARGEN (Cotabato Region)	Region XII	Koronadal
Caraga	Region XIII	Butuan
Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao	ARMM	Cotabato
Cordillera Administrative Region	CAR	Baguio
National Capital Region	NCR	Manila

2. DISASTER RISK PROFILE

Top 10 Natural Disasters in Philippines for the period 1900 to 2014 sorted by numbers of killed[5]

Disaster	Date	No Killed
Storm	16-Oct-1952	995
Flood	17-Jun-1990	98
Storm	15-Jul-1989	97
Storm	12-Oct-1982	96
Storm	22-Apr-1971	95
Storm	3-Nov-2000	94
Flood	Aug-1974	94
Storm	Nov-1955	93

Flood	18-Mar-1994	9
Storm	9-Jun-2011	9

Top 10 Natural Disasters in Philippines for the period 1900 to 2014 sorted by numbers of total affected people[5]

Disaster	Date	No Total Affected
Storm	8-Nov-2013	16,106,807
Storm	4-Dec-2012	6,246,664
Storm	12-Nov-1990	6,159,569
Storm	24-Sep-2009	4,901,763
Storm	21-Jun-2008	4,785,460
Storm	29-Sep-2009	4,478,491
Flood	6-Aug-2012	4,451,725
Storm	21-Oct-1998	3,902,424
Storm	27-Sep-2006	3,842,406
Storm	20-Nov-1973	3,400,024

Top 10 Natural Disasters in Philippines for the period 1900 to 2014 sorted by economic damage costs[5]

Disaster	Date	Damage (000 US$)
Storm	18-May-2008	99,174
Storm	20-Aug-2012	99
Storm	8-Aug-1987	98,600
Storm	31-Jul-2012	9,821
Storm	19-Nov-1970	97,656
Storm	16-Sep-1979	9,733
Storm	12-Oct-2013	96,723
Storm	3-Nov-1984	96,600
Storm	22-Nov-1968	9,600
Flood	26-Jan-2006	9,600

For some natural disasters (particularly floods and droughts) there is no exact day or month for the event, and for other disasters (particularly pre-1974) the available record of the disaster does not provide an exact day or month.

Summarized Table of Natural Disasters in Philippines from 1900 to 2014[5]

		No. of Events	Killed	Total Affected	Damage 000 US$)
Drought	Drought	8	8	6,553,207	64,453
	ave. per event		1	819,151	8,057
Earthquake (seismic activity)	Earthquake (ground shaking)	27	9,924	5,798,678	583,178
	ave. per event		368	214,766	21,599
	Tsunami	1	32	-	-
	ave. per event		32	-	-
Epidemic	Unspecified	1	1	664	-
	ave. per event		1	664	-
	Bacterial Infectious Diseases	6	96	4,302	-
	ave. per event		16	717	-
	Parasitic Infectious Diseases	1	50	666	-
	ave. per event		50	666	-
	Viral Infectious Diseases	10	1,136	143,790	-
	ave. per event		114	14,379	-
Flood	Unspecified	33	1,440	7,680,373	351,857
	ave. per event		44	232,739	10,662
	Flash flood	39	1,157	6,208,459	1,015,543
	ave. per event		30	159,191	26,040
	General Flood	53	786	14,533,734	2,423,726
	ave. per event		15	274,221	45,731

	Storm surge/coastal flood	11	149	125,931	2,617
	ave. per event		14	11,448	238
Insect infestation	Unspecified	2	-	200	925
	ave. per event		-	100	463
Mass movement dry	Landslide	2	311	-	-
	ave. per event		156	-	-
	Rockfall	1	50	-	-
	ave. per event		50	-	-
Mass movement wet	Avalanche	1	6	1,200	-
	ave. per event		6	1,200	-
	Landslide	28	2,148	313,508	33,281
	ave. per event		77	11,197	1,189
	Subsidence	1	287	2,838	-
	ave. per event		287	2,838	-
Storm	Unspecified	26	812	3,110,501	112,274
	ave. per event		31	119,635	4,318
	Local storm	4	9	24,704	5
	ave. per event		2	6,176	1
	Tropical cyclone	284	48,324	139,511,735	18,151,713
	ave. per event		170	491,239	63,915
Volcano	Volcanic eruption	25	2,996	1,734,907	231,961
	ave. per event		120	69,396	9,278
Wildfire	Forest fire	1	2	300	-
	ave. per event		2	300	-

3. INSTITUTIONAL SETUP

3.1 Legal System[6]

Promulgated on 11 June 1978, Presidential Decree (PD) No. 1566 entitled "Strengthening the Philippine Disaster Control Capability and Establishing the National Program on Community Disaster Preparedness" has created the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC). PD 1566 has been the legal authority of the NDCC in leading the collaborative efforts in disaster preparedness planning, as well as disaster response operations and rehabilitation, both in the public and private sectors in the country. In response to the urgent need to focus more on reducing disaster risks, the NDCC has started to take on the challenge of shifting its disaster management approaches and strategies from reactive (emergency management, disaster response) to pro-active (disaster risk reduction/management (DRR/M). Since 2008, the Government of the Philippines has been working its way into the passage of a new DRM Act which shall be known as the "Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction, Management and Recovery Act of 2009". This Act provides for the development of policies and plans and the implementation of actions and measures pertaining to all aspects of disaster risk reduction, management and recovery, including good governance, risk assessment and early warning, knowledge building and awareness raising, reducing underlying risk factors, and preparedness for effective response and early recovery.

3.2 Organization

The National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) is the highest policy-making, coordinating and supervising body at the national level for disaster risk management in the country. It actively carries out the notable efforts of the governments and programs on disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and rehabilitation. The NDCC also serves as an advisory body on disaster preparedness programs, disaster operations, and rehabilitation efforts undertaken by the government and other stakeholders. It also recommends to the President of the Republic of the Philippines the declaration of State of Calamity in disaster-affected areas and the release of national calamity funds as needed.

The Office of Civil Defense (OCD) as the operating arm and secretariat of the NDCC has the primary task of coordinating the activities and functions of various government agencies and instrumentalities, private institutions and civic organizations for the protection and preservation of life and property during disasters and emergencies.

4. INITIATIVES

4.1 National Calamities and Disaster Preparedness Plan (NCDPP) [6]

The NDCC has a National Calamities and Disaster Preparedness Plan (NCDPP) which specifies the functions and responsibilities of each member agency in times of disasters and emergencies, as well as, how concerted and coordinated disaster control effort from the national down to the regional, provincial, city, municipal, and barangay levels are being undertaken. The plan also stipulates numerous disaster management activities that have to be undertaken by concerned member agencies at the pre-disaster, emergency, and post-emergency phases. A National Disaster Risk Reduction, Management and Recovery Framework and Plan will be developed and formulated once the new DRM Act is enacted. The new law shall adopt and adhere to principles and strategies consistent with the international standards set by the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA). The NDCC, through the OCD, and with technical support from the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), has developed a long-term plan coined as the Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) on Disaster Risk Reduction (2009-2019) to implement the priorities for action of the HFA. The SNAP is a roadmap articulating priority programs and projects on DRR for the next ten years. Approval of said plan is in progress.

Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) 2009-2019

4.2 Philippines: Executive order adopting the Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), 2009-2019 and institutionalizing DRR (Executive order no. 888 of 7 June 2010)[7]

This executive order provides for the adoption of Strategic National Action Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) 2009-2019 and the institutionalization of DRR in the Philippines.

View full document [ext. link]

43. Philippines: Implementing rules and regulation of Republic Act no. 10121 strengthening the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management System[8]

This document provides for the rules and regulations of act no. 10121, also known as "an act strengthening the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management System, providing for the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework and institutionalizing the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan, appropriating funds therefore and for other purposes".

View full document [ext. link]

References

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