



A Multi -Stakeholder Response to Natural disasters during COVID-19

[Webinar summary]

The session explored the value of collective private sector engagement to support national efforts to prepare for, respond to or recover from natural hazards during COVID-19 pandemic, highlighting the experience of Philippines National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council(NDRRMA) collaborated with the CBi network, The Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) and one of its member companies, the Ayala Corporation. The session was moderated by Sebastian Rhodes Stampa, Chief, Emergency Response Section, UNOCHA.

Ricardo (Rick) B. Jalad - Administrator, Office of Civil Defense & Executive Director, NDRRMA

- There is significant added value from engaging with the Private Sector (PS) and other actors as resource providers – both in kind and financial. PS helps government manage the consequences of disasters.
- The lessons learned is the early recovery and logistics. Through working closely with the Private Sector and developing the online platform for supply chain management, government are risk informed to make critical decisions. Foundation of disaster response lies with how prepared our systems are.
- Overcoming differences between government and multiple private sectors takes a lot of tasks, but PDRF helps as being the focal point for the private sector.
- Unity is the call to action for the private sector. The NDRRMA invites PDRF and other key actors to planning meetings for attaining unity.

Veronica Gabaldon - Executive Director of Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF)

- After super typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda PDRF has significant improvement in the area of coordination and DRR. They have been working closely with the government not just as donors, providing real time assessment reports and data collection.
- During the COVID-19 response PDRF distributed food vouchers to 12.7 million individuals, provided PPE for health care workers, and conducted surveys and webinars focusing on SME resilience and recovery
- Philippines has 7,100 islands, thus prioritizing in collaboration is a challenge. For this, the PDRF Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) plays a central role for collaboration with their stakeholders.
- For the private sector, preparation is key. It is essential to Identify worst case scenarios and build preparedness measures based on this.

Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala - CEO, Ayala Corporation

- What started off as health issue is also an economic and socially complex issue and can only be approached in a unified way both globally and nationally. Multi-stakeholder engagement is key.
- The benefits of a company working collectively with others is scale and trust. PDRF is a neutral ground for companies to come together and to bring things to scale. And it provides one touch point for the government and other actors. Problem solving as a team is critical and it needs go beyond the inclusion of just one or two companies.
- To accelerate education plans particularly in rural areas, we need to realize that online learning is going to become the reality. The telecommunications industry doesn't reach all areas – and we need to find solutions for the last mile. To do this we need to work hand in hand with the

government. Training is required for teachers to teach online, as well as online access for all students regardless of location or economic background.

- Unity of action is critical to address the breadth of social development needs in conjunction with the collection of accurate data and information (scientific approach) to make informed critical decisions on what resources are needed are the call to action for the private sector.

Please listen to the video for more details.