Poverty Alleviation in the Wake of Typhoon Yolanda: Results of the 2015 Survey of Individuals in Selected Communities[1]

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The November 2015 Poverty Alleviation in the Wake of Typhoon Yolanda Survey is a household survey of 800 individuals in selected communities, in Tacloban, Tanauan and Palo in the province of Leyte. It is the first in a series three of cross sectional surveys conducted by the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom in cooperation with the University of Nottingham, Ningbo, China and the University of the Philippines, Diliman. This project aims to identify strategies that work in relation to poverty alleviation in post-disaster environments and the conditions necessary for the success and scaling up of these strategies based on the case of relief efforts in selected Yolanda areas. It focuses on urban population risks and vulnerability to disasters as well as resilience towards environmental shocks.

The survey covers experiences from pre- to post-Yolanda. Disaster response, resilience and community support are its main focus. Respondents were asked questions on their experiences, attitudes and perceptions on assistance, relief and relocation. Questions about their access to food, health services and education, livelihood, and community support were also included. The respondents' background characteristics and the household roster were also gathered by survey.

There are two types of data generated by the survey: one is the individual as unit of analysis and the other is the household level data, derived from the household roster form. To generate the individual data, the household head or the spouse of the household head was interviewed. In case when both were unavailable, any

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responsible adult who was knowledgeable about the personal details of the members of the household was interviewed. The data generated from this survey serves as the baseline data of this study on poverty alleviation two years after selected localities of Tacloban, Tanauan and Palo were devastated by Yolanda.

The central variable used in the analyses is poverty alleviation. It was determined by asking questions on self-perceived poverty, access to food, housing, health, education, and livelihood. Respondents were also asked to assess the assistance that they received from within and outside their community.

The questions were ordered in a manner that approximates the natural sequence of their Yolanda experience in order to help the respondents recall their experiences and to ensure accuracy and consistency of responses. Any marginal discrepancies in totals are due to the rounding of data.

Characteristics	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Sex				
Male	32.8	35.0	45.8	37.4
Female	66.3	62.5	54.2	61.5
No answer	0.9	2.5		1.1
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Age				
18-29	19.0	20.4	10.5	17.0
30-39	24.1	17.9	19.9	21.0
40-49	21.6	25.9	24.7	23.5
50-59	18.1	20.0	23.8	20.4
60 and above	14.4	13.0	18.9	15.6
No answer	2.8	2.8	2.2	2.5
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
% with any physical disability	0.9	1.2	2.9	1.6

Marital status	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Single	6.9	6.5	8.4	7.2
Married	77.4	80.2	75.7	78.1
Widowed	11.6	9.9	12.1	11.3
Separated or divorced	3.1	3.0	3.8	3.3
No answer	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.1
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Education				
None	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5
Elementary Grade	15.6	17.6	12.9	15.4
Elementary Graduate	10.6	11.6	9.6	10.6
High School Level	23.8	21.9	15.8	20.8
High School Graduate	20.6	26.6	19.6	22.0
Vocational School Level	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.6
Vocational	1.6	4.7	2.1	2.6
College Level	11.9	11.2	24.2	15.5
College Graduate	14.4	5.2	14.2	11.6
Post Graduate	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
% currently working	46.9	50.0	51.7	49.2

	Locality			Total
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
	98.8	98.3	98.3	98.5
Assistance received				
Food	99.7	97.1	97.9	98.4
Clothing	87.5	46.2	82.5	73.6
Cash	88.4	95.8	92.1	91.8
Shelter	50.3	88.8	75.8	69.5
Other assistance	1.6	17.9	1.7	6.5

	Locality			Total
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Received adequate assistance				
Food	35.0	74.2	47.1	50.4
Clothing	31.9	39.2	54.2	40.8
Cash	22.2	70.4	33.8	40.1
Shelter	16.9	58.8	25.8	32.1
Other	0.3	14.6	1.2	4.9
Kind of food provided				
Bread	0.6	27.9	2.1	9.2
Energy biscuit	20.9	24.2	5.0	17.1
Canned sardines	98.4	95.8	96.7	97.1
Canned corned beef	85.9	60.4	52.1	68.1
Canned meat loaf	60.7	17.1	32.5	39.1
Instant noodles	98.4	58.8	96.7	86.0
Rice	99.1	94.2	96.2	96.8
Coffee and sugar	16.8	0	19	12.3
Other, assorted food	30.0	16.7	13.8	21.1
Received hygiene kit	76.9	89.2	89.5	84.4
Soap	95.6	98.1	98.6	97.4
Toothbrush	93.6	85.6	97.7	92.4
Tooth paste	94.0	86.6	94.9	92.0
Face towel	55.6	28.7	64.5	49.9
Sanitary napkin	86.5	42.1	68.7	66.8
Medicine/Vitamins	29.5	51.9	36.4	38.7
Detergent	78.9	40.7	71.0	64.3
Other	18.7	24.6	31.7	24.4

	Locality			Total
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Stayed in an emergency shelter immediately after Yolanda	55.0	70.4	45.4	56.9
Tent	33.3	26.0	13.8	24.3
Bunkhouse	2.9	0	1.8	1.6
Transition house	44.7	79.9	72.5	65.7
Self-built makeshift house	49.1	15.4	15.6	26.7
Other	13.8	4.6	0	6.2

	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	Total
Felt safe in a tent	4.1	13.0	3.6	6.9
Felt safe in bunkhouse	2.4	0	0	0.8
Felt safe in self-built makeshift house	34.5	58.6	68.8	53.9
Felt safe in other dwelling	18.9	8.9	13.7	13.8
% willing to move to a relocation site	74.7	61.2	20.8	52.2
% who intend to stay permanently in current residence	67.2	75.1	92.5	78.2

Characteristics	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Source of income				
Wages and salaries	45.0	35.0	74.6	51.5
Rentals of property or any asset	1.6	0.4	0.4	0.8
Business income	31.9	40.4	28.7	33.7
Gift/help from other people	4.7	5.0	4.6	4.8
Pension and retirement benefit	2.2	1.7	5.0	2.9
Other	18.8	26.2	1.2	15.4
% Member of any organization	32.5	40.8	28.7	33.94

Did you lose household members as a result of Yolanda?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	18.4	8.6	15.0	14.0
No	81.2	90.9	85.0	85.7
No answer	0.3	0.5	0	0.3
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Did you take in relatives or friends in a long term (at least 6 months) basis?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	11.9	8.6	20.4	13.6
No	88.1	90.4	78.3	85.6
No answer	0	1.0	1.3	0.6
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Did you have school aged children in June 2013?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	62.8	58.3	68.3	63.4
No	35.9	40.7	31.7	35.8
No answer	1.3	1.0	0.0	0.8
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Would you say that your children's access to education is:	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
No school-age children	41.7	45.5	51.7	45.9
Better than before	10.9	11.2	7.5	10.0
Just the same	19.0	21.7	27.5	22.3
Worse than before	25.9	20.4	12.9	20.3
No answer	2.5	1.2	0.4	1.5
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Would you say that your access to health care and facilities is:	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Better than before	19.9	36.4	21.7	24.9
Same	42.1	39.2	56.2	45.7
Worse than before	32.1	22.5	21.7	26.2
No answer	5.9	1.9	0.4	3.2
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Did you participate in a cash for work program after Yolanda?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	61.4	35.4	35.8	46.4
No	37.1	63.6	63.3	52.4
No answer	1.5	1.0	0.9	1.2
TOTAL	100.1	100.0	100.0	100.0

Did Yolanda affect your family's main source of livelihood?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	93.8	90.9	87.9	91.2
No	5.0	7.7	12.1	7.9
No answer	1.2	1.4	0.0	0.9
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Would you say that your source of livelihood is:	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Better than before	18.7	12.9	23.8	18.7
Same	26.5	15.8	44.2	29.1
Worse than before	54.8	69.9	31.2	51.5
No answer	0.0	1.4	0.8	0.7
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Would you say that your access to food is:	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Better than before	15.3	11.5	16.2	14.5
Same	35.2	59.3	60.0	49.5
Worse than before	48.6	27.8	22.5	34.8
No answer	0.9	1.4	1.3	1.2
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Before Yolanda, did people in your community support each other if their household income is not enough?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	69.7	84.2	45.4	66.1
No	30.3	14.4	54.2	33.4
No answer	0.0	1.5	0.4	0.5
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

TOP 1 organization that helped you after Yolanda?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yourself or your family	42.5	46.4	30.4	39.8
Barangay Government	5.0	17.2	2.5	7.5
City/Municipal Government	2.5	12.9	4.6	6.0
Provincial Government	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.3
National Government	21.6	16.3	41.7	26.4
Local NGOs	11.2	1.0	7.5	7.3
International NGOs	15.9	4.3	12.9	11.8
Others	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
No answer	0.7	1.9	0.0	0.8
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

TOP 2 organization that helped you after Yolanda?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yourself or your family	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1
Barangay Government	1.2	4.3	2.9	2.6
City/Municipal Government	1.2	31.1	3.3	10.0
Provincial Government	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.3
National Government	16.2	28.2	7.9	16.9
Local NGOs	18.4	13.9	25.0	19.2
International NGOs	43.8	15.3	47.9	37.3
Foreign governments	3.8	0.5	2.1	2.3
Others	0.6	2.9	0.4	1.2
No answer	14.5	3.3	10.1	10.1
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

TOP 3 organization that helped you after Yolanda?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
National Government	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.2
International NGOs	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
Foreign Governments	0.3	0.0	1.2	0.5
Others	45.0	80.8	60.0	60.0
No response	52.9	11.7	38.8	36.6
Not applicable	0.9	7.5	0.0	2.6
Total	100.0	100	100	100.0

To what extent did your community help itself immediately after the disaster?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
A lot	0.6	4.8	6.2	3.5
Not much	12.5	43.5	37.1	28.6
Some but could not have done more	53.3	24.4	37.9	40.7
Did not help itself	32.7	24.9	16.2	25.4
Don't know	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1
No answer	0.9	2.4	2.2	1.7
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

To what extent has your community helped itself in the two years since the disaster?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
A lot	10.9	42.6	10.4	19.4
Not much	69.4	18.2	33.3	44.2
Some but could have done more	18.8	37.3	42.1	31.1
Did not help itself	0.6	0.5	13.3	4.6
No answer	0.3	1.4	0.8	0.8
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Would you describe yourself as happy pre-Yolanda?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	91.3	91.4	92.5	91.7
No	8.1	7.7	5.8	7.3
It depends	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1
	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1
No answer	0.6	0.9	1.3	0.9
TOTAL	100 .0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Would you describe yourself as happy post-Yolanda?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	26.9	43.5	25.4	30.9
No	73.1	55.5	73.8	68.6
No answer	0.0	1.0	0.8	0.5
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Would you describe yourself as disaster resilient pre-Yolanda?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	76.9	84.7	84.2	81.2
No	22.8	13.9	15.4	18.2
No answer	0.3	1.4	0.4	0.6
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Would you describe yourself as disaster resilient post-Yolanda?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	62.5	75.6	77.1	70.6
No	37.2	23.0	22.9	28.9
No answer	0.3	1.4	0.0	0.5
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you feel more confident in facing disaster now, as a result of Yolanda?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
It has suffered a lot	13.4	12.0	14.6	13.4
It is unchanged	15.0	7.2	19.6	14.3
My self-confidence has improved	71.0	79.4	65.4	71.6
No answer	0.6	1.4	0.4	0.8
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Why do you think the typhoon impacted to your region?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Fate	21.6	3.8	30.0	19.4
Poverty	1.6	1.4	10.8	4.4
Politics, bad governance	22.8	0.5	15.8	14.6
Geography	36.6	37.8	41.2	38.4
Other	16.2	55.5	1.6	22.3
No answer	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.9
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Did you receive duplicate aid?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	58.8	45.9	40.8	49.7
No	41.2	53.6	59.2	50.2
No answer	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.1
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Did you receive aid of a type that you did not need?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	21.6	1.4	11.2	12.9
No	78.1	98.1	88.3	86.7
No answer	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.4
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Did you receive aid or training that allow you to re-establish your livelihood?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	20.9	19.1	20.0	20.2
No	77.8	80.4	79.2	78.9
No answer	1.3	0.5	0.8	0.9
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

To what extent did the aid or training you received allow you to re-establish your livelihood?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
A lot, it was an essential equipment	5.6	11.0	9.2	8.2
Not at all it was not useful for my livelihood	1.2	3.8	5.4	3.3
Training or equipment allowed me to change my livelihood	4.7	2.4	2.5	3.4
I did not receive any training or equipment	77.8	80.4	74.6	77.5
No answer	10.7	2.4	8.3	7.6
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you think you or your community can deal with the problems caused by Yolanda?	Locality			TOTAL
	Tacloban	Tanauan	Palo	
Yes	67.8	41.6	72.1	62.0
No	31.6	56.5	26.2	36.7
No response	0.6	1.9	1.6	1.3
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0