



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
 DILG-NAPOLCOM Center, EDSA cor. Quezon Avenue, West Triangle, Quezon City
www.dilg.gov.ph

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
 No. 2024-074

TO : ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY AND MUNICIPAL MAYORS, DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS, BARMM MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : LISTO SA TAG-ULAN: PREPAREDNESS MEASURES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS FOR THE IMPENDING LA NIÑA AND RAINY SEASON C.Y. 2024

DATE : MAY 31 2024

1. Background

As of May 22, 2024, the Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (DOST-PAGASA) reported that El Niño in the tropical Pacific is in the decaying stage, but its impacts continue. A transition from El Niño to ENSO-neutral is imminent in June 2024. However, there is already a 69% chance for La Niña to develop during the July-August-September (JAS) C.Y. 2024 season. La Niña becomes the most probable category in August - October 2024 through December 2024 - February 2025. With this development, the PAGASA ENSO Alert and Warning System remains at El Niño Advisory / **La Niña Watch**. DOST-PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the ongoing La Niña, and regular updates/advisories shall be issued as appropriate.

La Niña Watch is issued when conditions are favorable for the development of La Niña within the next six (6) months, and the probability is 55% or more. La Niña is usually associated with above-normal rainfall conditions across most areas of the country during the last quarter of the year and early months of the following year.

With this development, the country may experience higher chances of strong convective activity and tropical cyclones in the following months, which may bring above-normal rainfall, especially in the eastern sections of the country in the coming several months. Adverse impacts such as flooding and landslides are expected over vulnerable areas and sectors of the country.

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991, the Local Government Units (LGUs) are mandated to adopt measures and protect their inhabitants from the harmful effects of man-made or natural

disasters and calamities through the provision of relief services and assistance within their respective areas of responsibilities.

Specifically, Section 4 (17) of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Republic Act No. 10121 of the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010 provides that “the Provincial, City, Municipal DRRMOs and Barangay DRRMCs shall respond to and manage the adverse effects of emergencies and carry out recovery activities in the affected area, ensuring that there is an efficient mechanism for immediate delivery of food, shelter and medical supplies for women, children”.

2. Purpose

This Memorandum Circular is issued to guide all LGUs in taking proactive measures to prepare for the anticipated rainy season, which may be exacerbated by the La Niña phenomenon. This aims to minimize the adverse effects on lives, properties, and the local economy.

3. Scope/Coverage

All Provincial Governors, City and Municipal Mayors, Punong Barangays, DILG Regional Directors, BARMM Minister of Local Government, and all others concerned.

4. Policy Content and Guidelines

4.1. All Local Chief Executives (LCEs) are hereby enjoined to implement the following minimum early preparedness measures to mitigate and address the adverse impacts of the impending La Niña:

4.1.1. Establish early preparedness actions guided by the following Operation LISTO Protocols for Hydrometeorological Hazards:

- Operation LISTO Disaster Preparedness Manual for City and Municipal LGUs (Version 3) - *Typhoon Edition*.
Access link: http://bit.ly/LISTO_Manual_v3
- Operation LISTO Disaster Preparedness Manual for *Localized Weather Disturbances* Edition.
- Access link: bit.ly/LISTO_Manual_LWD

4.1.2. Convene their respective LDRRMCs and conduct Pre-Disaster Risk Assessment (PDRA) Meetings on La Niña, particularly for floods, flash floods, rain-induced landslides, debris flow, storm surge, strong winds, and other hydrometeorological hazards to ascertain the appropriate response actions. The scaled geo-hazard maps of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Mines and

Geosciences Bureau (DENR-MGB) will guide decisions, especially for areas with high to very high susceptibility to these hazards.

4.1.3. Develop/Revisit/Update their respective La Niña/Rainy Season Contingency/Action Plans and other local emergency response plans.

- 4.1.3.1. Conduct a comprehensive assessment of flood, storm surges, and landslide-prone areas within your jurisdiction and prioritize these areas in your action plans;
- 4.1.3.2. Identification of (a) population-at-risk in hazard-prone areas, such as those living in low-lying lands, along riverbanks, shorelines, and canals which are prone to flooding and landslides; (b) Identification of people with special needs, such as older people, children, women, and person with disabilities, and their location (c) communities living in poorly constructed houses and facilities made of light materials;
- 4.1.3.3. Ensure the availability of updated disaggregated data of populations at risk within your respective jurisdictions;
- 4.1.3.4. The Local La Niña Contingency, at the minimum, should include protocols and standard operating procedures (SOPs) on the following:
 - Activation of the early warning systems and the identification of agreed triggers.
 - Activation of LDRRMC Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Response Clusters (RCs), and deployment of Incident Management Teams (IMTs).
 - Activation of pre-designated safe evacuation centers.
 - Designated areas for search and rescue.
 - Evacuation routes and traffic.
 - Search and Rescue.
 - Emergency response and communication.
 - Medical and Counselling Services.
 - Distribution of Relief Goods.
 - Evacuation Center Management.
- 4.1.3.5. Develop/revisit/update their respective public service continuity plans and other preparedness and response plans for hydrometeorological hazards and ensure they are harmonized.

4.1.3.6. Rehearse their respective emergency response and evacuation plans in high-risk areas by conducting drills and simulation exercises with the concerned communities and stakeholders.

4.1.4. Functional and Resilient LDRRMC Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) and established local Incident Management Teams (IMTs):

4.1.4.1. Ensure that all LGUs at the provincial, city, municipal, and barangay levels establish functional and resilient LDRRMC EOCs. These centers should be designated facilities that are adequately staffed and equipped with the necessary resources to facilitate multi-stakeholder coordination, manage information, and mobilize resources. This is essential for effective disaster incident operations, providing a vital link between Response Clusters and the IMT in charge.

4.1.4.2. It should have established robust communication links with the EOCs of other Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (DRRMC) member agencies, Response Clusters, local IMTs, and the EOCs of both higher and lower-level DRRMCs in other LGUs, as well as with relevant stakeholders. This ensures effective coordination and response during disasters.

4.1.4.3. This facility should be staffed with appropriate human resources and equipped with essential physical requirements such as computer systems, communication tools and equipment, and monitoring tools. They must also have sufficient backup power generators, internet connectivity, and communication capabilities to guarantee continuous operations during major disasters.

4.1.4.4. Pursuant to Rule 7 (h), IRR of RA 10121 has expressly provided for the establishment of an Incident Command System (ICS) as part of the country's on-scene disaster response system to ensure the effective consequence management of disasters or emergencies;

In line with this, all LGUs should adopt the concept of ICS by issuing an Executive Order and by ensuring there is an organized IMT in their locality to manage the critical preparedness actions and response operations at the onset of a hydrometeorological hazard.

4.1.5. Establishment of Reliable and Functional Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems

- 4.1.5.1. Conduct monthly assessments and inspections and ensure top-shape functionality, in collaboration with DOST Regional Offices and other concerned stakeholders, of all established Early-Warning Systems (EWS), such as automated rain gauges, water level sensors, and other local and indigenous early-warning systems within their AOR.
 - 4.1.5.2. Ensure a community-based multi-hazard early warning system (MH-EWS) is established at the Brgy/purok levels and is well cascaded and communicated to the communities, especially those in isolated areas;
 - 4.1.5.3. Ensure a comprehensive EWS communication mechanism and dissemination protocols are in place to ensure timely warnings and information are disseminated and received by the concerned communities and stakeholders.
- 4.1.6. **Public Awareness and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign**
- 4.1.6.1. Implement information dissemination campaigns to educate and raise public awareness about La Niña, its potential impacts, and necessary precautionary measures.
 - 4.1.6.2. To disseminate information and advisories, utilize local media, social media platforms, posters, radio, text messaging, and other community-based messaging and public service announcements.
 - 4.1.6.3. Enjoin family and household preparedness through the **“Gabay at Mapa para sa LISTONG Pamilyang Pilipino”**. Gabay at Mapa is a family guide that contains actions to be performed before, during, and after a disaster. It requires families to make a household plan that specifies their evacuation routes, family meeting points, and safe places in their homes.

Gabay at Mapa (containing E-balde) can be accessed through this link: <https://bit.ly/Gabay-at-Mapa>
 - 4.1.6.4. In coordination with their respective Local Government Operations Officers (LGOOs), **the Punong Barangays are enjoined to take the lead in conducting IEC Campaigns on cascading the “Gabay at Mapa para sa LISTONG Pamilyang Pilipino”** to households living in high-risk areas within their jurisdiction. Furthermore,

encouraging and ensuring these households have a standby E-Baldeo Emergency Baldeo in their homes.

4.1.7. Strengthening of Evacuation Systems and Evacuation Facilities

- 4.1.7.1. Ensure the availability of pre-designated safe evacuation camps, preferably permanent and disaster-resilient evacuation centers that are compliant with the minimum standards stipulated in DSWD, DILG, DOH, DepEd Joint Memorandum Circular No. 02, series 2021 on the *“Guidelines on Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) and Internally Displaced Person Protection (IDP)”*, dated 27 December 2021.
- 4.1.7.2. There should be an organized Camp Management Committee (CMC) by the LGU through and within its LDRRMC to coordinate timely assistance and services to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). These committees should develop, revisit, and update the local Camp Management Plans, which include mapping resources and organizing competent Camp Management Teams. The members of the CMT must be all trained in CCCM.
- 4.1.7.3. Conduct capacity-building activities and refresher courses for designated camp managers/teams and volunteers in coordination with their respective DSWD Regional Field Offices.
- 4.1.7.4. For LGUs with no permanent evacuation camp, they should begin to identify and enter into an agreement/or revisit their existing agreements with private buildings, structures, and property owners, and in the case that there are no other options, the LGU should also ensure they have MOA/MOU with schools that are still being used as evacuation camps.
- 4.1.7.5. To further strengthen their respective evacuation systems, the DILG Memorandum Circular 2018-122: *“Guidelines for Local Government Units on the Strengthening of Evacuation Systems using the LDRRMF”*, dated 08 August 2018, provided guidelines on the utilization of LDRRMF and identification of other fund sources to support all the CCCM activities and rehabilitation of all the Evacuation Centers.

4.1.8. Ensure unhampered delivery of emergency services, logistics flow, and supply chain management.

- 4.1.8.1. Identify and ensure that the main and sub-arterial supply routes are passable, and coordinate with their concerned DPWH District Office, adjacent LGUs, and their local debris clearing teams to expedite the clearing of debris along the roads to ensure unhampered movements of cargo, goods, and supplies.
 - 4.1.8.2. Review and update the inventory of stockpiles of relief goods and other resources (*e.g., food and non-food items, such as food packs, hygiene kits, medicine, beddings; transport and logistics; stockpile of personal protective equipment, etc.*). Given any identified supply gaps, undertake advanced procurement, subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
 - 4.1.8.3. Identify strategic and safe areas for the prepositioning of resources and stockpiles to expedite the delivery of humanitarian services to affected communities. These areas should be chosen based on their accessibility, security, and proximity to vulnerable populations. Consider locations that are less likely to be impacted by the same disasters, ensuring they remain operational and reachable during emergencies; and
 - 4.1.8.4. Moreover, these prepositioned sites should have adequate infrastructure to store and manage supplies effectively, including provisions for food, water, medical supplies, and essential equipment. Ensure these sites have robust logistical support, including transportation networks, to facilitate rapid deployment of resources when needed. Ensure these areas are well-integrated into the overall local disaster response plan, thereby enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian aid delivery.
- 4.1.9. **Establishment and Forging of Partnership, Mutual Aid, and Framework Agreements**
- 4.1.9.1. Revisit existing partnership agreements with other LGUs, such as, but not limited to, Sisterhood Agreements and other similar arrangements that entail mutual aid support to one another, and review the scope of the agreement;
 - 4.1.9.2. Revisit existing agreements, such as, but not limited to Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding, and other arrangements that enable immediate and timely augmentation of resources from the NGAs (*e.g. DSWD, NFA*), private sectors, humanitarian aid organizations, CSOs, FBOs, volunteer groups, and other relevant stakeholders during disasters and emergencies;

4.1.9.3. Explore new arrangements, such as framework agreements with goods and services providers, and/or revisit existing agreements or contracts that will address the various needs for disaster and emergency response and recovery, such as, but not limited to, adequate supply of food, water, medicine, fuel and other disaster relief, recovery, and rehabilitation needs; and

4.1.9.4. Moreover, Operation LISTO Protocols: Disaster Preparedness Manual Typhoon Edition, Version 3, Early Preparedness Actions provides a checklist of areas to consider when entering into a Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding. Agreements involving purchases must comply with Commission on Audit and Procurement Law guidelines.

4.1.10. **Infrastructure Inspection/Audit and Reinforcement**

4.1.10.1. Assess the structural integrity and capacity of vital facilities, especially those being used as evacuation centers, emergency operations centers, multi-purpose storage areas for relief goods, health centers, hospitals, public buildings, including public markets, land transportation terminals, and ports; lifelines, such as power, water, and communications; and immediately undertake proper actions to ensure that these are all functional and safe to use, in relation to emergencies during the rainy season.

4.1.10.2. Conduct inspections of critical infrastructure such as bridges, roads, dams, water facilities, and drainage systems.

4.1.10.3. Implement necessary repairs and reinforcements to withstand potential flash floods, landslides, and strong winds.

4.1.11. **Enforcement of No-Build Zones in High-Risk Areas**

4.1.11.1. Ensure strict compliance with the DENR-DILG-DND-DPWH-DOST Joint Memorandum Circular 2014-01: *"Adoption of Hazard Classification in Areas Affected by TY Yolanda and Providing Guidelines for Activities Therein"* dated 05 November 2014. This was further reiterated and reinforced by the issuance of the DILG Memorandum: *"Prohibition of Construction of Structures in Hazardous and High-Risk Areas"*, dated 01 March 2024.

- 4.1.11.2. Strictly adhere to existing government directives and regulations that prohibit the construction of structures in hazardous and high-risk areas;
 - 4.1.11.3. Adoption of guidelines for the Hazard Zone Classification and Recommended Activities particularly the “no building activities”;
 - 4.1.11.4. Adoption of hydrometeorological hazard maps as a basis for the declaration of Safe, No-Dwelling, and No-build Zones through the issuance of local ordinances.
- 4.1.12. **Utilize the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Funds**, both the annual allocation and balances accruing to the LDRRMF Special Trust Fund. LGUs may need to update the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Investment Program (LDRRMIP) and the Annual Investment Program to maximize the LDRRMF. LGUs may also need to discuss with the Local Finance Committee other sources of funds that may complement preparedness, response, and early recovery.
- 4.1.13. **Maintain transparency and accountability in the utilization of Funds**, especially in the expedient procurement procedures through “Negotiated Procurement Under Emergency Cases” under Section 53 (b) of Republic Act (RA) No. 9184 and Section 53.2 of its 2016 revised IRR. The GPPB NPM No. 003-2020 was issued to guide all Procuring Entities (PEs) in the conduct of their Procurement Projects under this modality.
- 4.1.14. For proper documentation, all LGU activities should be documented and attached to the final report to be submitted to the Municipal/City/Regional DRRM Offices for consolidation.
- 4.2. All DILG Regional/ Provincial/ City Directors and concerned Local Government Operations Officers (LGOOs) assigned to LGUs are hereby directed to implement the following activities:**
- 4.2.1. In coordination with the Regional/ Provincial/ City/ Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils (RDRRMC), convene your respective Regional Disaster Preparedness Committees to prepare/review//evaluate your existing La Niña/Rainy Season Action Plan.
 - 4.2.2. Monitor actions taken by the LGUs within your jurisdictions and ensure that they are provided with the necessary technical assistance, in close coordination with your respective RDRRMCs.
 - 4.2.3. Closely coordinate with DOST-PAGASA for the Regional and Provincial Rainfall Forecast, and with the DENR-MGB for LGUs

with high to very high susceptibility to floods and landslides within your respective areas of responsibility.

- 4.2.4. Furthermore, in collaboration with your respective RDRRMCs, you are requested to conduct dialogues with Provinces, Cities, and Municipalities within your respective jurisdictions, engage in comprehensive discussions on the possible impacts of La Niña within their locality and assess their existing plans, and inquire about their specific requirements for support and augmentation from the NGAs to ensure proactive and efficient support measures and actions are in place to prepare for and mitigate the possible adverse impacts of the impending La Niña.
- 4.2.5. Cause the immediate and widest dissemination of this Memorandum Circular.

5. References

- 5.1. Operation LISTO Disaster Preparedness Manual for City and Municipal LGUs (Version 3) - Typhoon Edition.
- 5.2. Operation LISTO Disaster Preparedness Manual for Localized Weather Disturbances Edition.
- 5.3. NDRRMC Memorandum No. 090, s.2024: *"Preparedness for the Onset of La Niña 2024"*, dated 24 May 2024.
- 5.4. DOST-PAGASA El Niño / La Niña Monitoring as of 22 May 2024;
- 5.5. DILG Memorandum: *"Prohibition of Construction of Structures in Hazardous and High-Risk Areas"*, dated 01 March 2024.
- 5.6. DSWD, DILG, DOH, DepEd Joint Memorandum Circular No. 02, series 2021: *"Guidelines on Camp Coordination and Camp Management and Internally Displaced Person Protection"*, dated 27 December 2021.
- 5.7. NDRRMC Memorandum No. 142, s. 2021: *"Updated Pre-Disaster Risk Assessment (PDRA) Indicators for Hydrometeorological Hazards"*, dated 25 November 2021.
- 5.8. CSC Memorandum Circular No. 02, s. 2021: *"Formulation of Public Service Continuity Plan (PSCP)"*, dated 04 March 2021.
- 5.9. DILG Memorandum Circular 2020-162: *"Ensuring Fast Distribution of Food Packs During Natural Disasters and Calamities and Reiterating the Compendium of Disaster Preparedness and Response Protocols"*, dated 27 November 2020.
- 5.10. DILG Memorandum Circular 2020-125: *"LISTO sa Tag-Ulan at COVID-19: Preparedness Measures of LGUs for the Rainy Season CY 2020"*, dated September 25, 2020.
- 5.11. Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) NPM No. 003-2020: *"Negotiated Procurement under Emergency Cases"*, dated 31 March 2020.
- 5.12. GPPB Resolution No. 27-2019: *"Approving the Guidelines on the Use of Framework Agreement by All Procuring Entities"*, dated 10 December 2019.

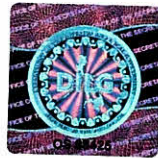
- 5.13. DILG Memorandum Circular 2018-122: *“Guidelines for Local Government Units on the Strengthening of Evacuation Systems using the LDRRMF”*, dated 08 August 2018.
- 5.14. DILG Memorandum Circular No. 97-306: *“Guidelines in Establishing National or International Sister-City or Town-Twinning Relations, Amending for the Purpose Memorandum Circular No. 94-93 dated June 8, 1994”*, dated 25 November 1997.

6. Effectivity

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.

7. Approving Authority

ATTY. BENJAMIN C. ABALOS, JR.
Secretary



8. Feedback

For related queries, you may contact the DILG—Central Office Disaster Information Coordinating Center (CODIX) at (02) 8876-34-54, local 6102.

OSEC/BCA/OUSLG/MLI/CODIX/REL/hrz

