Planet Water Foundation | Disaster Response Alliance



PHILIPPINES
CENTRAL LUZON
FLOODS RESPONSE

September 2026

Event Background

From August to early September 2026, northern and central Luzon experienced repeated heavy rainfall and flooding as successive tropical cyclones intensified the Southwest Monsoon (Habagat). The combined storms caused approximately PHP 18.68 billion in agricultural and infrastructure damage nationwide.

Pampanga was among the hardest-hit provinces and was placed under a State of Calamity on August 12. Flooding affected 297 barangays, impacting approximately 860,000 people, while damaging homes, schools, agriculture, fisheries, and livelihoods.

The flooding severely disrupted communities, with more than one million people affected by August 24. In Macabebe alone, hundreds of hectares of fishponds were damaged, affecting thousands of workers and fisherfolk. Schools, roads, transportation, and relief access were also heavily disrupted.

Prolonged flooding created ongoing public-health risks, particularly from contaminated water and waterborne diseases. Authorities continued relief and health measures as flooding persisted into September.











Our Response

Planet Water Foundation monitored the prolonged flooding across Luzon, focusing on Pampanga, where many communities remained flooded for weeks. After partner support was confirmed, the Planet Water Disaster Response team began preparations and coordination with local authorities.

Field assessments found a significant need for safe drinking water, as local water sources were contaminated or inaccessible and bottled water was difficult to deliver to isolated communities. The AquaSafe, a portable point-of-use filtration system, provided a practical solution by allowing families to treat locally available water.



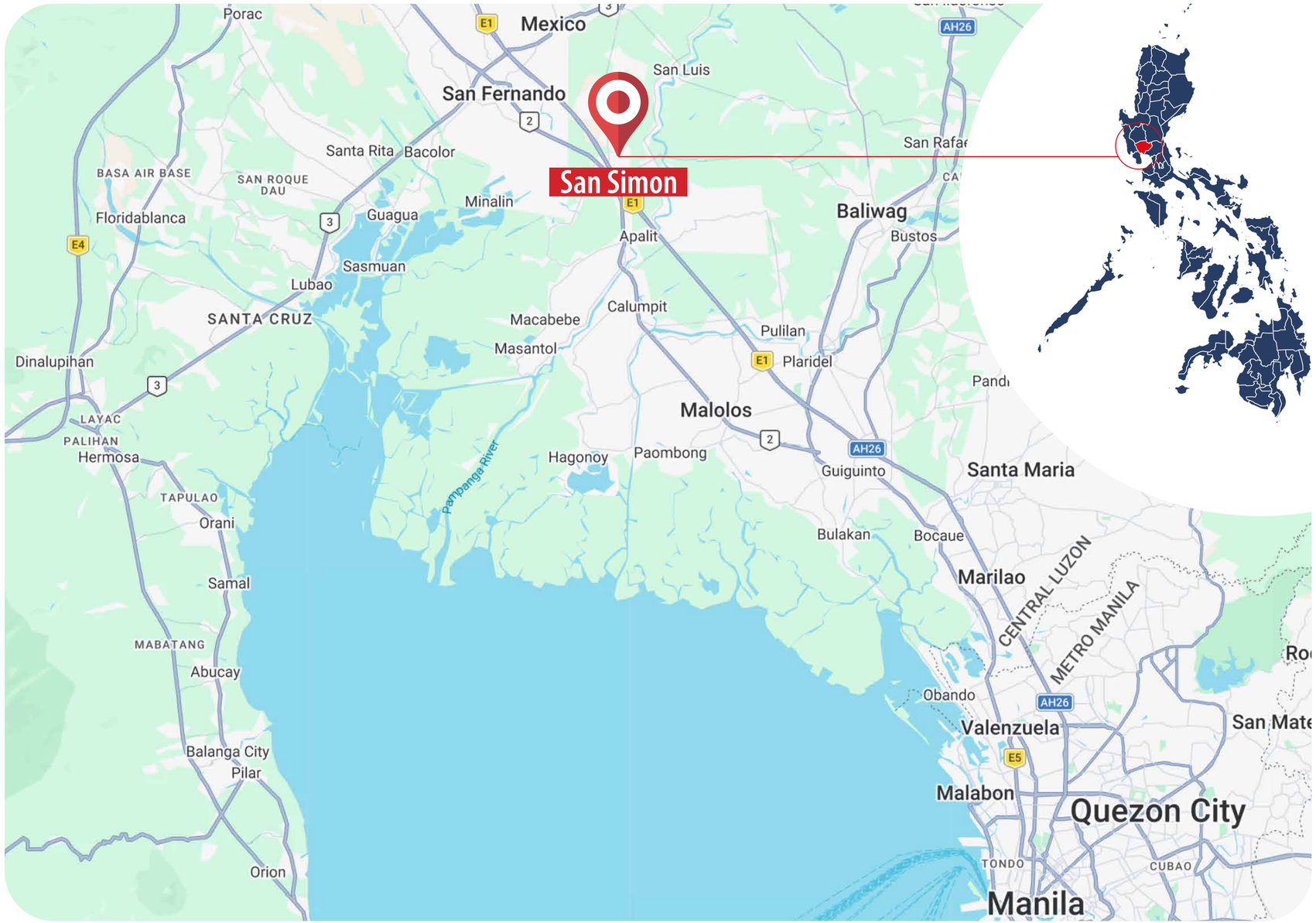












The Planet Water team traveled to Pampanga on September 18 and assessed affected evacuation centers, communities, schools, and health centers. Over the course of the next four days, Planet Water Foundation AquaSafe systems were deployed to support communities across San Simon, including San Pedro, San Miguel, San Jose, San Isidro, Sto. Niño, San Pablo, San Juan, San Nicolas, San Agustin, and Sta. Monica.







AquaSafe Water Filter & Hygiene Station

The AquaSafe provides communities with reliable access to safe drinking water and improved hygiene through advanced ultrafiltration and carbon filtration technology that can purify water from rivers, streams, lakes, and even floodwaters. Designed for ease of use and everyday sanitation, the system includes a built-in liquid soap dispenser and connectable hand shower to support healthier hygiene practices and help reduce the spread of germs. Each deployment included in-person training, and all systems were distributed together with step-by-step guidance materials, reusable drinking cups, and hygiene education materials.



San Simon, Pampanga

September 21-22, 2026

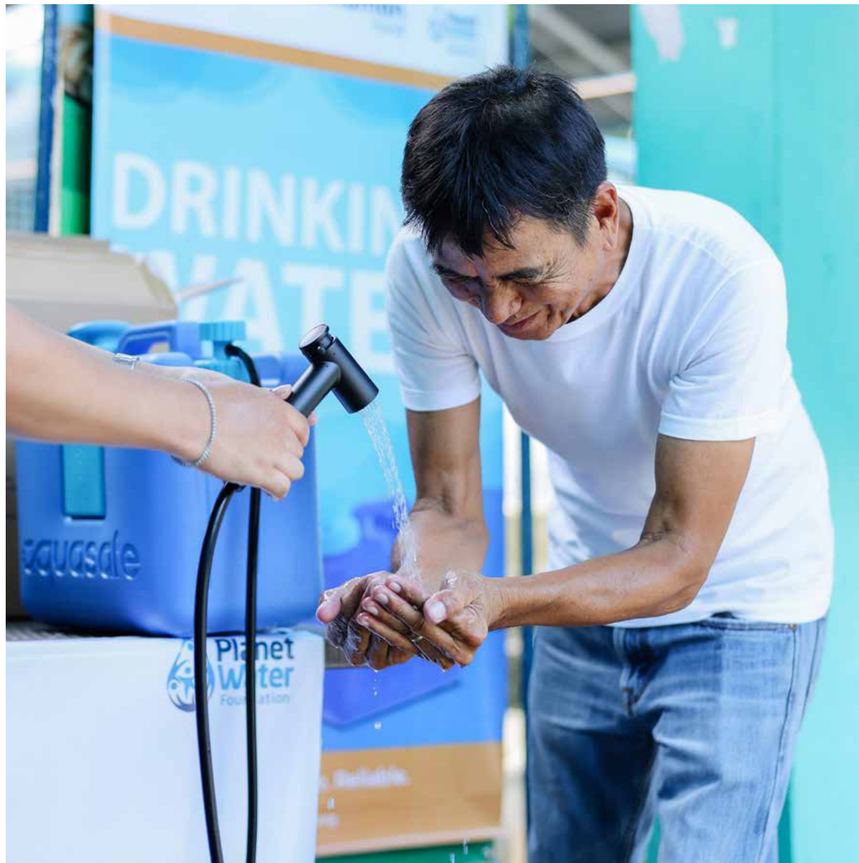
“Our home is very close to the Pampanga River. That morning, we did not pay much attention to the rain because it seemed normal to us. But by around 3:00 in the afternoon, I noticed the water rising. It eventually reached our house, and the water was already almost halfway up our gate. That was when I panicked and immediately started moving our belongings to higher ground. The flood rose very quickly and carried a lot of mud. We were unable to save much, not even our drinking water. Now, safe drinking water has become very expensive because some water sources were damaged and several water refilling stations are not operating. AquaSafe is a big help because we can be more confident that the water we drink is clean, and we do not have to worry about having nothing safe to drink when we are thirsty. Thank you very much to Planet Water Foundation and the donors.”

Mr. Rod Bravo,
Resident of Barangay San Pedro,
San Simon, Pampanga





















“We have been staying here at Sta. Monica Chapel for almost one month because our home is still flooded and we still cannot return. Many families from our neighborhood are here together with our children and grandchildren because our houses remain submerged. We had no choice but to stay at the chapel for now, and we are very grateful that we were allowed to live here temporarily. AquaSafe is a big help for us because there is not enough clean water for us here. We can use it not only for drinking, but also for cooking and handwashing to help prevent illness.”

Danilo Sipmlicio,
Resident of Barangay Sta. Monica,
San Simon, Pampanga



Our response efforts were made possible thanks to the support of our partners Concentrix, Think Human Fund and contributions from our individual supporters. Through our response, we provided safe drinking water to up to 2,000 people in Pampanga, Philippines.

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