



# Limasawa, Southern Leyte, Philippines

Responding to the critical need  
for clean water in the wake of  
Typhoon Odette

Emergency Response  
January 2022



## The Aftermath

Supertyphoon Odette carved out a trail of destruction across the central-southern Philippines on December 16, 2021. Amongst the hardest hit areas was Limasawa, where community members were already facing increasing poverty and health crisis following two years of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Limasawa was severely pummeled by the typhoon. Countless houses were destroyed and livelihoods shattered by the winds and torrential rains, resulting in severe disruption to drinking water supplies and electricity affecting everyone on the island.

Relief operations were especially challenging due to Limasawa's geographical isolation, with the island located 18 km from the mainland, and only accessible via boat.



# Stories from Limasawa Island

"I have not experienced a storm as fierce as Odette. It blew away the roof and washed out the pillars of our home. Even our fishing boat is a total wreck. We are now living in a makeshift shelter without much to eat or drink. Electricity is limited so the pumps are not working, forcing us to walk for kilometers to fetch well water."

**Luis Palero,  
Fisherfolk from Lunsongan, Limasawa**

"I am so thankful that we found shelter amid the bewildering storm. We were more than 300 families who evacuated to the church. I am so grateful that we are safe despite what happened."

**Nanay Anita,  
Resident of Magallanes**

"We were so scared of the strong winds. We hurriedly left our homes and ran to the church for safety. After the disaster, one of the hurdles we now face is getting our basic needs. We line up daily for drinking water from a well. It is very difficult."

**Ronel Gabriel,  
Resident from Magallanes, Limasawa**

"This is the strongest typhoon I've experienced in my life. My family and I were terrified. Typhoon Odette practically destroyed our entire house."

**Romeo Padilla,  
Resident of Lugsongan**

"We were forced to evacuate because the typhoon was very intense. When we returned home, our house was destroyed. Despite this, I am still thankful that my family is safe. Now, we are appealing for help for our daily needs, most importantly clean water so that we'll survive the coming days."

**April Jay,  
Mother from Lunsongan, Limasawa**

"Everywhere you look—it's devastation. None of the villages in Limasawa was spared by Odette's wrath."

**Melchor Petracorta,  
Mayor of Limasawa**

# Our Response

To provide critical access for clean, safe water in the wake of Typhoon Odette, Capital One Philippines supported the deployment of two Planet Water AquaBlock systems for typhoon-ravaged communities. Despite the weather and transportation challenges, the Planet Water team, in partnership with GMA Kapuso Foundation and the Philippine Coast Guard, deployed the emergency water kiosks in Lugsongan and Magallanes villages. Each AquaBlock produces up to 1,500 liters of clean water per hour and can support the daily water requirements of up to 9,500 people.



# Thank you Capital One Philippines

The residents in Lugsongan and Magallanes continue to benefit from the clean, safe drinking water from the AquaBlock systems. The two systems will stay in the typhoon-ravaged communities until the supply of clean water stabilizes.



