

A Social Platform For Good

BIKE SCOUTS



Bike Scouts is a community that thrives on creating stories from the good we do together to promote sustainability, bicycle mobility, and a shared and equal resilience.



nominated for 2025

**THE
EARTHSHOT
PRIZE**



Bike Scouts is a finalist of the 2021 Safe Steps Disaster Tech Awards presented by Prudence Foundation and a funding recipient of the globally-selected 2021 Facebook Community Accelerator Program.

2013

ESTABLISHED

Launched in 2013 as an alternative means of access to communications and essential supplies for people and places isolated by Typhoon Yolanda - using bicycles and teams of Volunteer Bicycle Messengers. The storm caused massive damage in 9 regions in the Philippines including inundation from multiple 5–6 meter (15–19 ft) waves affecting almost 15 million people and displacing 4 million.



VOLUNTEER BICYCLE MESSENGERS



Volunteer Bicycle Messengers collect main body of data and communications requests



Carrier Teams support riding groups by doing the heavy lifting wherever supplies are needed.



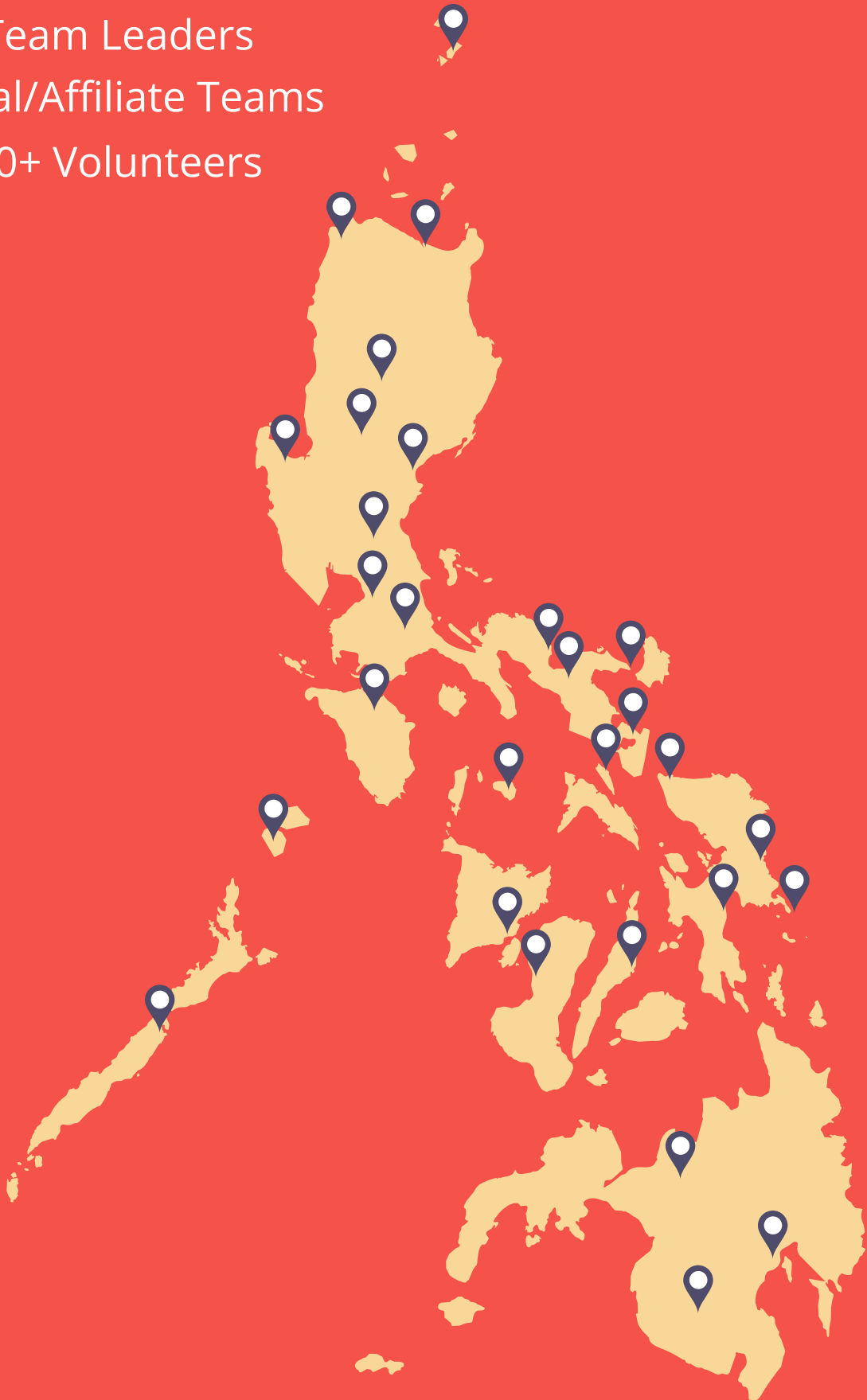
Bike Scouts uses drones to survey surrounding terrain for data and documentation.

COMMUNITY

4,000 Team Leaders

45 Local/Affiliate Teams

150,000+ Volunteers



IMPACT REPORT

Bike Scouts operates as a volunteer-driven platform that launched and operated for eight years with zero funding. Bike Scouts launched a mobile app in 2021 that now serves as the primary tool for disaster data collection, disaster documentation, and storytelling by its community. All work-related reports up to the launch of the Bike Scouts app have relied on field reports and estimates by local team leaders and verified through photography, video documentation, and supporting reports from partner organizations and agencies. The Bike Scouts app now allows the Bike Scouts to provide real-time impact reporting for all of its activities and projects.



IMPACT POINTS

- COMMUNICATIONS** This represents the delivery of the Bike Scouts primary service of providing access to an alternative means of communication through Volunteer Bicycle Messenger teams, Bike Scouts social media channels, and partner networks.
- SUPPLIES DELIVERY** The delivery service that Bike Scouts Volunteer Bicycle Messenger teams provide for people and communities that are isolated by disasters.
- NETWORK SUPPORT** The access to the Bike Scouts' network of community support and partners that is available to everyone that makes disaster response and social good delivery more efficient and effective.

IMPACT REPORT

TYPHOON YOLANDA (2013)

Category-5 typhoon that made landfall with 150 mph winds, leaving the province of Leyte 90% destroyed. The storm affected more than 14 million people across 44 provinces, displacing 4.1 million people, killing more than 6,000 people, leaving 1,800 missing, and 1.1 million damaged or destroyed houses.

	COMMUNICATIONS	10,000+ Reports/Messages Delivered
	SUPPLIES DELIVERY	Various Essential Supplies Delivered
	NETWORK SUPPORT	Rappler, MovePH, UNOCHA, UNDP
	DURATION OF WORK	4 Months
	AREA OF OPERATIONS	Leyte, Samar, Manila, Cebu



MEDIA COVERAGE: <https://youtu.be/lZAMGLr--qE>

TYPHOON RUBY (2014)




The storm caused 18 people confirmed deaths, 916 injured according to the NDRRMC. Total financial loss were calculated at PhP5.09 billion (US\$114 million). At the height of the evacuation on 9 December, 1.7 million people were in 5,193 evacuation centres.

	COMMUNICATIONS	5,000+ Reports/Messages Delivered
	SUPPLIES DELIVERY	Various Essential Supplies Delivered
	NETWORK SUPPORT	Rappler, MovePH
	DURATION OF WORK	2 Weeks
	AREA OF OPERATIONS	Eastern Samar, Manila



TYPHOON MELOR (2015)

730,000 people from five regions were evacuated, 41 confirmed deaths and over 199,850 houses were damaged – 55,400 of them completely. Most damage to houses have been in the provinces of Oriental Mindoro Northern Samar and Sorsogon.

	COMMUNICATIONS	500+ Reports/Messages Delivered
	SUPPLIES DELIVERY	Various Essential Supplies Delivered
	NETWORK SUPPORT	Rappler, MovePH, Private Donors
	DURATION OF WORK	1 Week
	AREA OF OPERATIONS	Oriental Mindoro, Northern Samar



IMPACT REPORT

TYPHOON LAWIN (2016)

13,428 families or 61,126 persons were affected in 118 barangays in Regions I, II, III, V and CAR. A total of 3,919 families or 15,328 persons were displaced and 3,825 families or 14,895 persons took shelter in 136 evacuation centers.

	COMMUNICATIONS	400+ Reports/Messages Delivered
	SUPPLIES DELIVERY	Various Essential Supplies Delivered
	NETWORK SUPPORT	Rappler, MovePH
	DURATION OF WORK	1 Week
	AREA OF OPERATIONS	Manila, Northern Luzon



Image from GMA-7 News

TYPHOON VINTA (2017)

TS Vinta made landfall in Davao Oriental in the morning of 22 December and crossed various provinces across Mindanao causing flash floods and landslides. Severe flooding and landslides have been reported in Cagayan de Oro City and in a number of towns in Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Zamboanga del Norte and Zamboanga Sibugay provinces.




	COMMUNICATIONS	150+ Reports/Messages Delivered
	SUPPLIES DELIVERY	N/A
	NETWORK SUPPORT	Rappler, MovePH
	DURATION OF WORK	1 Week
	AREA OF OPERATIONS	Manila (Monitoring)



Image from ABS-CBN News

TYPHOON OMPONG (2018)

Category-5 storm with sustained wind speeds of more than 205 km/h and gusts of 255 km/h, the typhoon caused flash flooding, storm surges and landslides. 193,000 people took shelter in 1,900 evacuation centers in five regions.

	COMMUNICATIONS	500+ Reports/Messages Delivered
	SUPPLIES DELIVERY	Various Essential Supplies Delivered
	NETWORK SUPPORT	Rappler, MovePH, FlyingLabsPH
	DURATION OF WORK	1 Week
	AREA OF OPERATIONS	Manila (Monitoring), Baguio-Benguet






Image from CBCP News

IMPACT REPORT

TYPHOON TISOY (2019)

Category-4 storm that destroyed 1,100 houses and left 6,300 partially damaged in Eastern Samar Province. at least 578,571 people were affected by Typhoon Vongfong in 491 barangays in Regions I, II, III, VIII and CAR. And there were more than 3,600 people who took temporary shelter in 72 evacuation centers in Regions I, II, III and CAR.

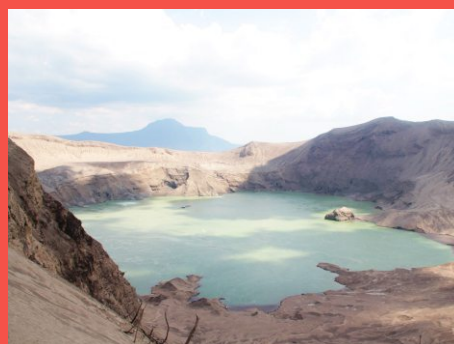
	COMMUNICATIONS	1000+ Reports/Messages Delivered
	SUPPLIES DELIVERY	Various Essential Supplies Delivered
	NETWORK SUPPORT	Rappler, MovePH
	DURATION OF WORK	1 Week
	AREA OF OPERATIONS	Manila, Eastern Samar



TAAL VOLCANO ERUPTION (2020)

At least 584,000 people were affected in Batangas, Quezon, Laguna, and Cavite. There were over 6,100 people that took shelter in evacuation centers, and at least 194,000 people stayed in informal evacuation centers.

	COMMUNICATIONS	3000+ Reports/Messages Delivered
	SUPPLIES DELIVERY	Various Essential Supplies Delivered
	NETWORK SUPPORT	Goozam, Private Donors
	DURATION OF WORK	3 Weeks
	AREA OF OPERATIONS	Manila, Batangas, Cavite, Laguna



IMPACT REPORT

TYPHOON ROLLY (2020)

Category-5 typhoon with 1-minute sustained winds of 315 km/h (195 mph). At least 3,355,000 people are affected in 5,996 barangays in Regions NCR, II, III, CALABARZON, MIMAROPA, V, VIII, and CAR. More than 3,800 people took shelter in 56 evacuation centers in Regions NCR, III and V, and approximately 4,200 persons stayed in informal evacuation sites in Regions V and CAR.

	COMMUNICATIONS	4000+ Reports/Messages Delivered
	SUPPLIES DELIVERY	Various Essential Supplies Delivered
	NETWORK SUPPORT	Private Donors
	DURATION OF WORK	2 Weeks
	AREA OF OPERATIONS	Manila, Bicol Region



IMPACT REPORT

BATANES EARTHQUAKE (2020)

5.4 magnitude with 12 km depth of focus, occurred at 4:16am, followed by the second shock, a 5.9 magnitude with 7 km depth at 7:37am, and the powerful shock was of 5.8 magnitude with 1 km depth tremor was felt after few hours, around 9:24am. Two major earthquakes' epicentres were recorded in the east of Itbayat, Batanes while the latest was in the east of Basco, Batanes. In total, 13 aftershocks were recorded as at 11:19am on the same day on 27 July 2019. There were eight deaths, 60 people suffered injuries, and the Batanes Islands suffered major infrastructure damage.

	COMMUNICATIONS	500+ Reports/Messages Delivered
	SUPPLIES DELIVERY	Various Essential Supplies Delivered
	NETWORK SUPPORT	Private Donors
	DURATION OF WORK	2 Weeks
	AREA OF OPERATIONS	Manila (Monitoring), Batanes Islands



COVID-19 PANDEMIC (2020)

From January 2020 to November 2021 there have been 2,811,248 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 44,866 deaths in the Philippines according to WHO. As of 27 October 2021, a total of 58,212,187 vaccine doses have been administered. 64% of households had a member who lost their job due to the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) lockdowns and other measures that was implemented in the country.

	COMMUNICATIONS	5000+ Reports/Messages Delivered
	SUPPLIES DELIVERY	Various Essential Supplies Delivered
	NETWORK SUPPORT	UNOCHA, Private Donors
	DURATION OF WORK	2 Years
	AREA OF OPERATIONS	Nationwide (Monitoring)



IMPACT REPORT

700k+ Instances of providing
a resilient means of access to information,
communications, and critical supplies to
people and places isolated by disasters.



Typhoon Goni



Batanes Earthquake



Typhoon Yolanda

2013



Typhoon Ruby

2014



Typhoon Melor

2015



Typhoon Lawin

2016



Typhoon Vinta

2017



Typhoon Ompong

2018



Typhoon Tisoy

2019



Taal Volcano

2020



Typhoon Usagi

Typhoon Nika

Typhoon Marce

Typhoon Pepito

Typhoon Leon

Typhoon Kristine

Typhoon Julian



Covid-19 Pandemic

2021



Typhoon Odette

2022



Typhoon Betty

2023



Typhoon Julian

2024

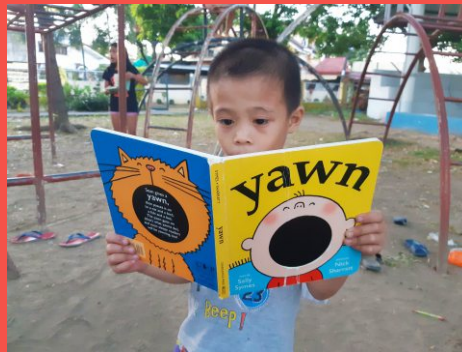


PROJECTS



BICYCLE LIBRARY & ART SCHOOL

Operational since 2018 with one cargo bicycle as a supporting project for the Bike Scouts initiative setting up libraries for underserved schools and isolated communities.



PROJECTS



BICYCLE FOR SCHOOLS PROJECT

A project with partner brands and corporations for students who have to walk long distances to get to school. Bike Scouts distributed 4,500 bicycles over the past eight years and organized a bike-share for frontline workers during the Covid-19 lockdown.



https://public.tableau.com/profile/ocha.philippines.im#:/viz/home/Philippines_OCHA3W_COVID19_Humanitarianresponse/OCHACoVID-193W

COLLABORATION



PHILIPPINES

A series on localization: How the Philippines is quietly implementing a more localized COVID-19 humanitarian response (Part 2)

Last updated: 29 Jun 2020

International support will take time to reach the most vulnerable, according to the assessment by NASSA. With the various restrictions on mobility impacting conventional delivery of aid, they see an opportunity that will allow greater engagement of inter-faith organizations at the local level to fill the gaps and sustain solid partnership among community groups to sustain assistance in the context of the coronavirus crisis. Currently, some 30 organized FBGs are actively supporting affected local governments and at-risk communities in the country with projects re-aligned to focus on COVID-19. A number of common service partnerships have been established by FBGs and are ready to be rolled out, including cash provision and supporting local markets and short-term livelihood.

► Bike Scouts contribute to psychosocial health through essential community connections

With more than 15,000 members across the country, the Bike Scouts of the Philippines is a volunteer group that has been providing free rides to health staff and daily workers in a number of provinces. Their services also include the delivery of essential goods and important documents at the barangay level, the lowest government administrative unit.

For the COVID-19 response, Bike Scouts acted as an essential messenger service between otherwise isolated communities, especially providing free rides and allowing free use of bikes to those who could not afford to travel due to lockdown and had lost their day jobs. Part of Bike Scout's routine is the "house-to-house connection" where they ask households how they are coping up with the crisis, and then collect and record feedback, which they share with the local government.

"I think our main goal, apart from travelling around and supporting in the risk assessments and other logistics related concerns, is to help restore the essential need for communication between human beings. In a way, what we are doing is a form of psychosocial response, but unlike anything else it specifically addresses the need for human connection as a fundamental element of resilience and hope", said Myles Delfin, Founder of the Bike Scout of the Philippines.

Around 3, 000 bikers have been actively providing direct support to the local government and at-risk communities across the Luzon and Visayas regions. Bike Scouts has been instrumental in reaching geographically isolated areas especially in the series of Rapid Information, Communication and Accountability Assessments (RICAA) organized by the Humanitarian Country Team's Community of Practice on Community Engagement.

As COVID-19 pandemic to a large extent immobilized the conventional humanitarian system in terms of its ability to deliver aid, CSOs continue to mobilize resources, although limited, in order to fill the gap and ensure that provision of support to the people in need is not disrupted.

Additional information on the humanitarian situation in the Philippines is also available on the following websites:

<https://www.unocha.org/philippines>

<http://philippines.humanitarianresponse.info>

<http://reliefweb.int/country/phl>

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Bike Scouts is a finalist of the 2021 Prudence Foundation DTech Awards and selected for the 2021 Meta Community Accelerator Program. We are a Global Giving vetted organization.

OUR MISSION

To build a global network of local support for doing good, helping others in the aftermath of disasters, and making a difference in the work to address the climate crisis through community-driven sustainability, bicycle mobility adoption, and resilience.

PARTNERS

Bike Scouts is a member of the Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR), the largest international network of organisations committed to improving the lives of people affected by disasters worldwide, SmartCT Citizens x Technology to build resilient communities via open data, data-driven decision-making, accessibility, inclusion, and connectivity, and the Makati Business Club, a private business association that promotes the role of the business sector in nation building.

OTHER PARTNERS: Goozam – “a mobile app that’s making a difference in first response,” UNOCHA, Decathlon, MovePH, Rapid Emergency Telecommunications Team, Zion Emergency and Disaster Response Unit, The Embassy of the Netherlands in the Philippines, The Embassy of Denmark – Manila, WeRobotics, Philippine Flying Labs, Philippine Business for Social Progress, Standard Chartered Bank, among others.

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