

# **‘Agaton’ affects 136,000 in Visayas, Mindanao: NDRRMC**

MANILA (UPDATE) — At least 136,000 people in the country have been affected by Tropical Depression Agaton (international name: Megi), the state disaster response agency said Monday.

Over 3,700 families or 13,000 people remain in evacuation camps, while many others are sheltering in the homes of relatives or friends, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said.

Heavy rains brought by Agaton triggered flooding in 195 areas in the Western Visayas, Central Visayas, Eastern Visayas, Northern Mindanao, Davao Region, Soccsksargen, Caraga, and the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

Based on reports that reached the agency, one died, two were injured while one was missing.

Forty-nine houses were also damaged while three were destroyed in Central Visayas, Northern Mindanao and Caraga, it added.

Losses to crops in Soccsksargen and BARMM were estimated to cost P874,000.

The NDRRMC said more than 2,300 people were left stranded in various ports across the country due to Agaton. The operations of 1,180 rolling cargoes, six vessels and one motorbanca were suspended due to the weather condition.

Agaton weakens, storm signal 1 up in several areas

According to state weather bureau PAGASA, Agaton weakened into a tropical depression Monday morning.

The weather disturbance was last spotted over the coastal waters of Tanauan, Leyte as of 10 a.m. It was packing maximum sustained winds of 45 kilometers per hour, with gusts of up to 60 kph.

Several areas were placed under Tropical Cyclone Wind Signal Number 1.

Agaton is expected to remain a tropical depression as it slowly passes over the vicinity of northeastern Leyte and the southern portions of Samar and Eastern Samar before emerging over the Philippine Sea by Tuesday evening, PAGASA said.

It is expected to weaken as it interacts and assimilates with a stronger cyclone with international name of "Malakas," eventually becoming a low-pressure area on Wednesday.

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Source:

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