

SRA CSR and SUGAREAP Relief Operations for Taal Eruption Victims

The Sugar Regulatory Administration Corporate Social Responsibility (SRA CSR) Committee, together with the Sugar Regulatory Administration Employees Association of the Philippines, Inc. (SUGAREAP), held relief operations for the victims of Taal volcano eruption on January 22, 2020.



After 42 years, the Taal Volcano erupted on January 12, 2020¹. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) raised the alert status to 4 due to the phreatic eruption being displayed by the volcano. This eruption was accompanied by volcanic earthquakes that resulted to the presence of fissures destroying some houses in parts of Batangas.² This led authorities to put the municipalities of Talisay, Agoncillo, San Nicolas, Taal, and Lemery under lockdown. As such, numerous residents and families took refuge in nearby evacuation centers for their safety.

To the rescue are the SRA CSR Committee and SUGAREAP volunteers. The volunteers went to different evacuation centers to give bottled water, packed goods, face towels, blankets, medicine supplies, rechargeable flashlights as well as hygiene

¹ Rappler. TIMELINE: Taal Volcano's January 2020 eruption. 16 Jan 2020:

<https://www.rappler.com/newsbreak/iq/249503-timeline-taal-volcano-eruption-2020>.

² Sabillo, Kristine, ABS-CBN News. Phivolcs: Fissuring, cracked roads in Batangas signs of rising magma. 14 Jan 2020: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/01/14/20/phivolcs-fissuring-cracked-roads-in-batangas-signs-of-rising-magma>.

kits that include bath soap, alcohol, shampoo, toothbrush, and toothpaste. Through these humble gifts, the SRA wishes to lift the spirits of the evacuees staying at the Alitagtag National High School, Brgy. Concepcion Barangay Hall, and Alitagtag College.

These relief operations for the Taal volcano eruption victims are in line with the SRA CSR's objective of promoting volunteerism and altruism³. Also, this is SRA's act of giving back to our stakeholders – the sugarcane planters and general public⁴, whom the SRA deems important to assist during these difficult times.

The SRA CSR Committee would like to thank the Sugar Board, Office of the Administrator, Officers, Sugar Regulatory Administration Employees' Association of the Philippines (SUGAREAP), and eligible partners for making these relief operations possible.

³ Guidelines for SRA's Corporate Social Responsibility, Memorandum Circular No. 10, s. 2019.

⁴ Section 32, Formal Recognition of SRA Stakeholders, The Sugar Regulatory Administration Manual of Corporate Governance (SRA-MCG).