Social Media in Natural Disasters: Lessons from Typhon Haiyan

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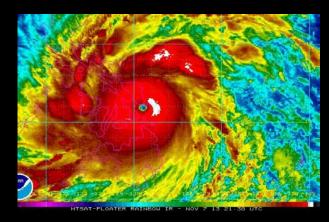
FRANCISCO GUERRERO | W.H.O.

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Overview

- Typhoon Haiyan
- ITU & WHO in Typhoon Haiyan
- Social Media in the Philippines
- WHO Social Media in the Philippines
- Health at the Heart of Healing Campaign & Engagement
- Lessons Learned







Typhoon Haiyan

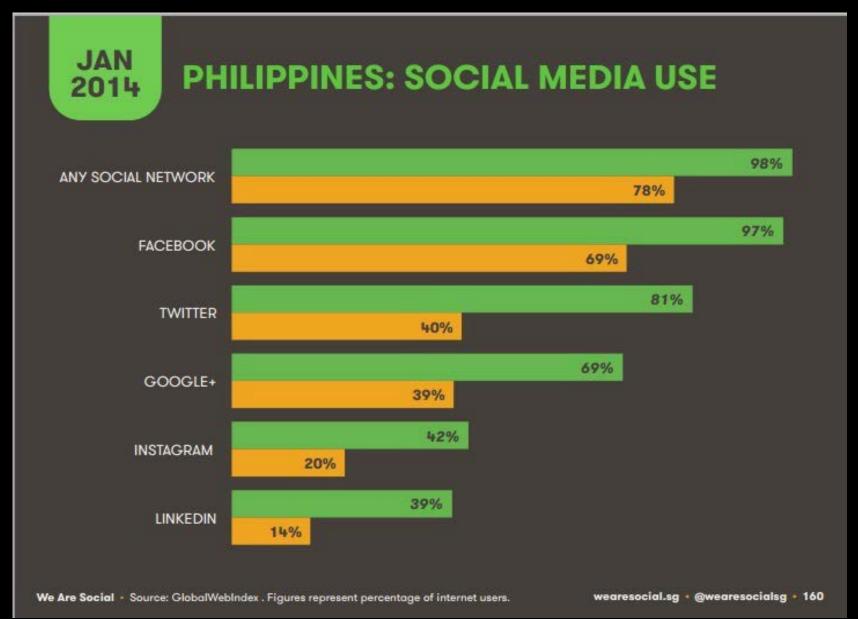
- Locally known as 'Yolanda'
- Over 6000 dead and 16 million people affected
- Sea surges up to 5 metres high, sustained winds of 250 km/h



Social Media in the Philippines



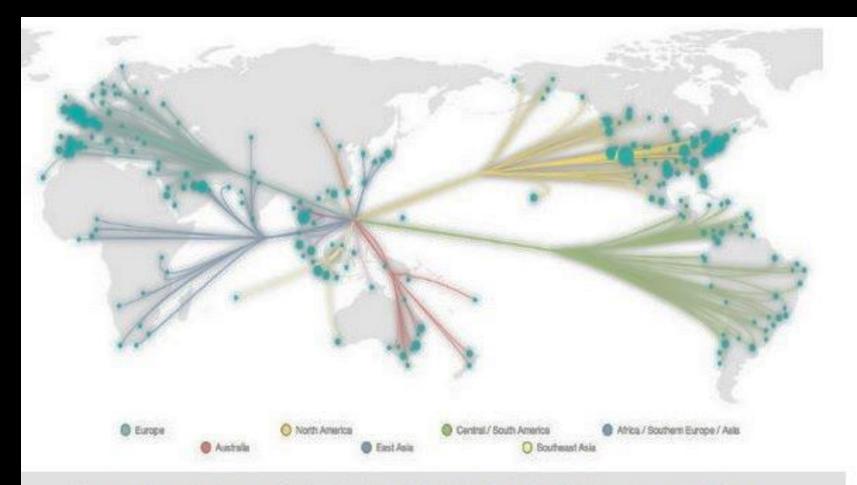
Social Media in the Philippines



ITU & WHO in Typhoon Haiyan

- On 20 November 2013, the UN International Telecommunications Union (ITU) supported the WHO country office in the Philippines with satellite phones equipped with GPS to facilitate Haiyan search and rescue efforts
- ITU also provided Inmarsat Broadband Global Area Network terminals, and a Qualcomm CDMA base station to establish internet connectivity in affected areas
- With over 14 million affected, the country office found that it was imperative to establish social media channels as internet connectivity was restored
- By 27 November 2013, the WHO Office of the Philippines created a social media team and established a Facebook page

#YolandaPH



VISUALIZED. How the world responded to Haiyan on Twitter. Screenshot from Twitter Data

WHO, Social Media, and #YolandaPH

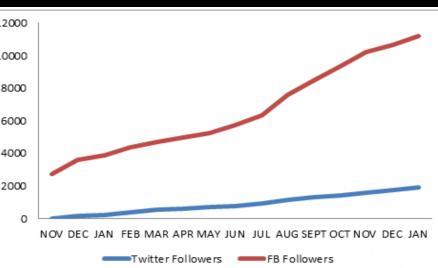
Facebook (November 27, 2014)

Mostly widely used social media network in the Philippines

2000+ organic likes on the first day of establishments

Effective way of disseminating stories from the ground and interacting with the public who want to help





Social Media and Information

TYPHOON HAIYAN (YOLANDA)

improve

HEALTH CARE WASTE

to be properly disposed

SANITATION AND HYGIENE

MENTAL HEALTH

trained in psychosocial support

Health professionals to be

P

HEALTH PRIORITIES 6 MONTHS ON HEALTH AT THE HEART OF HEALING

582

FACILITIES

to repair or rebuild

to be prevented

VECTOR

DISEASES

BORNE

PUBLIC HEALTH



WWW.WPRO.WHO.INT/PHILIPPINES



147,000 BREASTFEEDING MOTHERS

70,000 NEWBORN BABIES



needing care

Health at the Heart of Healing

World Health Organization



Health at the Heart of Healing

- Social Media Campaign which bring offline engagement to the online sphere
- Highlights health as the key to response and recovery
- People who participated then had their pictures in a collage which we placed in Haiyan affected areas as a form of psychosocial support



orid Health



Health at the Heart of Healing #HealthHeartHealing



The response was immediate and welcomed by everyone from all walks of life...

- WHO staff
- National Media
- Local Celebrities
- Overseas Filipino Workers
- Donors













Launching of the first collage placed in Eastern Samar, one of the hardest hit regions

HEALTH at the HEART of HEALING

Organizatio

Lessons Learnt

Social Networking Services should not be confined to Social Media Channels

Social Media can give information to communities at the click of a button therefore mitigating logistical burdens at the onset of the response

Social Media can facilitate engagement with key stakeholder

Social Media can be a medium to push politically sensitive policies

With the right managers, social media can reach offline as much as it reaches offline

Social Media content is only as good as the technical teams that social media managers work with







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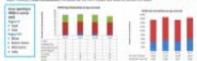
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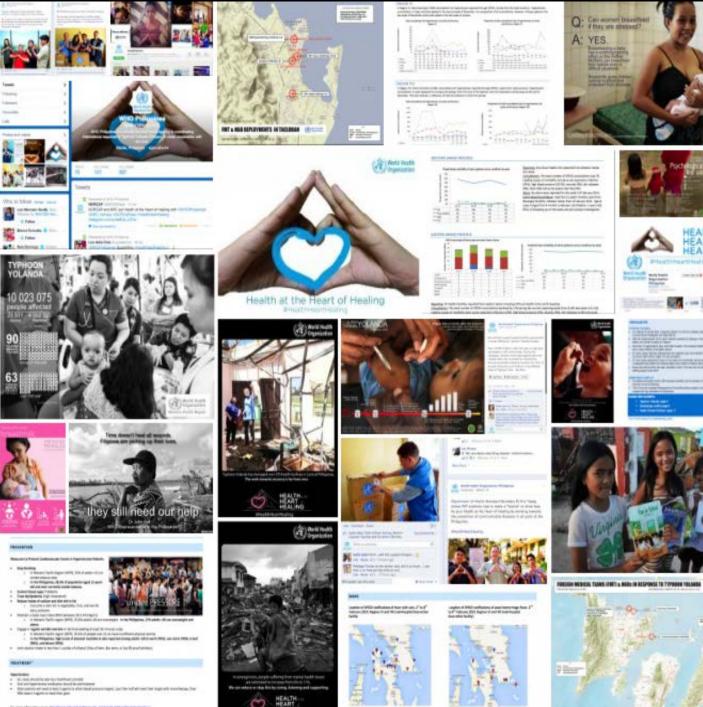
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