

**DÓCHAS**  
*The Irish Association of Non-Governmental Development Organisations*

Press Release

11 November 2013

**Philippines Typhoon**

**Irish NGOs encourage the public to find out how their donations can have the highest impact, by visiting the Website:**

**[www.howyoucanhelp.ie](http://www.howyoucanhelp.ie)**

**As Irish aid agencies mobilise their experienced emergency response teams to assist victims of the typhoon in the Philippines, members of the public who wish to help are encouraged to consult a website about the realities of effective aid.**

The website, [www.HowYouCanHelp.ie](http://www.HowYouCanHelp.ie) is hosted by the 51 member organisations of Dóchas, Ireland's umbrella organisation of aid agencies.

Following reports of the devastation caused by the Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, Dóchas are asking members of the public to consult the [www.HowYouCanHelp.ie](http://www.HowYouCanHelp.ie) website for information on how to help. Hans Zomer, Director of Dóchas has said:

“Disasters such as the typhoon in the Philippines often occur when people least expect them. We have seen what damage storms can do to communities here, so we can imagine the damage of this super storm to communities with fewer safety nets to fall back on. Over the years, the Irish people have shown that they understand that when such disasters strike, immediate action is needed to save lives. But sometimes people's wish to act swiftly interferes with the need to act effectively.”

“This website sets out the principles of good emergency relief, and the many ways in which members of the public can assist the Irish aid agencies to do their work” he said.

The website [HowYouCanHelp.ie](http://www.HowYouCanHelp.ie) was developed by Dóchas, and sponsored by Irish Aid, the government's overseas development programme.

The website can be found at <http://www.howyoucanhelp.ie/>

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**For more information about Dóchas, please see [www.dochas.ie](http://www.dochas.ie)**

## Notes for the Editor

- The website [www.HowYouCanHelp.ie](http://www.HowYouCanHelp.ie) was developed in order to enhance the provision of information about aid coordination. It sets out how Irish aid agencies and the Irish government respond to emergencies, and it presents some of the basic principles of Irish aid.
- A list of Dóchas members can be found at : <http://dochas.ie/membership/our-members/>
- For more details of how professional emergency aid organisations work together, see <http://www.HowYouCanHelp.ie>