



## **Tropical Cyclone Nokaen Affects the Philippines**

### **Tropical cyclone Nokaen situation from January 15–22, 2026**

The name “Nokaen” originates from the Lao language, which was proposed by Lao PDR, and means “bird”, while in Vietnam it is associated with the meaning “swallow”. In the Philippines, the storm was locally named “Ada”.

Tropical cyclone Nokaen developed over the Philippine Sea, east of the Bicol Region, and was later monitored near the coastal areas of Baras, Catanduanes. It recorded maximum sustained winds of about 85 km/h, with gusts reaching up to 115 km/h, and a central pressure of around 994 hPa. It remained at tropical storm strength throughout its development. It moved slowly at approximately 25 km/h and followed an unusual track, initially moving northwestward before gradually turning northward and then northeastward in a looping pattern over southern Luzon.

Tropical cyclone Nokaen eventually weakened into a low-pressure area on January 22, 2026, after affecting Catanduanes and nearby areas. During its passage, it brought significant rainfall ranging from 374 to 539 mm, along with strong winds of about 72–94 km/h, causing localized impacts in the affected regions.

### **Damage and losses**

#### **Impact on the affected area**

Several impacts were reported across the affected areas, including strong winds, heavy rainfall, and coastal inundation. Communities that located near coastal zones experienced the most severe conditions, particularly in Catanduanes, where rainfall accumulation exceeded 200 mm, leading to severe flooding and landslides. Storm surges were also recorded, with waves reaching heights of up to 2 meters in some areas.

As of February 10, 2026, the department of agricultural (DA) of the Philippines has reported that the damage and losses have been found in 4 regions including Mimaropa, Bicol, Eastern Visays, and Caraga regions, which amounting to 88.44 million PHP or approximately 1.51 million USD. These affecting 3,900 farmers and fisherfolk with volume of production loss at 1,262 tons and 3,488 hectares of agricultural areas, specifically affected commodities including rice, maize, high value crops, livestock, and fisheries.

Additionally, initial reports indicated that around 5,000 people were significantly affected, with many houses damaged and displaced. These displaced people were moved to temporary shelters in 12 evacuation centers. Meanwhile, another report from the Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS) estimated that the storm may have affected approximately 3.79 million people across the region.

## **Agricultural devastation**

### **Agricultural land:**

Four regions were affected by the disaster, including Mimaropa, Bicol, Eastern Visayas, and Caraga, with a total damaged area of approximately 3,488 hectares:

- Rice: 2,624 hectares damaged.
- Maize: 828 hectares damaged.
- High-value crops: 36 hectares damaged.
- Livestock: Impacts reported on carabao, cattle, chickens, and swine.
- Fisheries and aquatic resources: Damage to motorized fishing boats.

### **Affected crops:**

- Rice: Approximately 1,070 tons lost, mainly during the vegetative and newly planted stages.
- Maize: About 56 tons lost, particularly during the vegetative and reproductive stages.
- High-value crops: Around 137 tons lost, including lowland vegetables, legumes, root crops, banana, and mango.
- Livestock: 35 heads reported lost.
- Fisheries: 9 fisherfolk affected.

## **Government responses and countermeasures**

The government supported affected communities by establishing 12 evacuation centers to accommodate displaced people. Authorities also provided assistance and ensured that basic needs for those who were forced to leave their homes due to the impacts of the event.

The DA has mobilized extensive support to assist farmers and fisherfolk affected by tropical depression Ada. Interventions include 66.93 million PHP worth of agricultural inputs such as rice, maize, and vegetable seeds, and 181.74 million PHP worth of biologics and soil ameliorants through its Regional Field Offices. Additional assistance includes tilapia and carp fingerlings, 34,754.16 tons of rice from the National Food Authority for distribution to affected LGUs, access to the Survival and Recovery (SURE) Loan Program offering up to 25,000 PHP at zero interest, and the Quick Response Fund for rehabilitation efforts. The DA continues to implement recovery and rehabilitation programs in the agriculture and fisheries sectors in disaster-affected areas.

Additionally, several national agencies, including the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council–Office of Civil Defense (NDRRMOC), the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), and the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), play important roles in monitoring and reporting the situation. These agencies continuously shared informative reports with local authorities to support preparedness, response operations, and public safety.

They also maintained close monitoring of weather developments and potential risks, particularly the possible combined hazards from tropical cyclone Nokaen and Mount Mayon, which remained under Alert Level 3, indicating a risk of hazardous eruption. This coordination aimed to ensure timely warnings and minimize the potential impact on vulnerable communities.

**Sources:**

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2. Final bulletin on Tropical Depression Ada, 10 February 2026, Department of Agriculture (DA).
3. Overall green alert Tropical Cyclone for Nokaen-26 in the Philippines, Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS). [https://www.gdacs.org/Cyclones/report\\_source.aspx?eventtype=TC&eventid=1001249&bulletinid=2&system=HWRF](https://www.gdacs.org/Cyclones/report_source.aspx?eventtype=TC&eventid=1001249&bulletinid=2&system=HWRF)
4. Typhoon Nokaen is the first storm to operate in the Northwest Pacific region in 2026, Laodong. <https://news.laodong.vn/moi-truong/du-bao-duong-di-cua-bao-so-1-nokaen-gan-bien-dong-1641596.ldo>
5. RSMC Tokyo - Typhoon Center, Japan Meteorological Agency. <https://www.jma.go.jp/jma/jma-eng/jma-center/rsmc-hp-pub-eg/tyname.html>