

Davao Oriental Earthquake Response



**Emergency Clean Water Response and
SkyHydrant Deployment**

October 16, 2025 to Present

**Davao Oriental (Epicenter: Manay; Affected Areas:
Baganga to Mati)**

Communities lost access to clean and safe drinking water after the 7.6 magnitude earthquake On October 10, 2025, a 7.6 magnitude earthquake struck Davao Oriental, with its epicenter located in Manay. The strong shaking affected communities from Baganga all the way to Mati, damaging water sources and leaving thousands with limited or no access to safe drinking water. Recognizing the urgent need, the Safe Water For Every Child-Philippines SWAT (Safe Water Action Team) was immediately deployed to Davao Oriental to support communities struggling with a disrupted water supply.



Children playing on the grounds atop the debris of what remains of their house after the earthquake



A child fetching water at a nearby faucet for their daily use.

The mission was clear: bring clean and safe drinking water to the affected population as quickly as possible.

During the response, the team was accompanied and supported by 1st District Board Member Beverly Dayanan, ensuring fast coordination with local authorities. Using two SkyHydrant Max units provided by SkyJuice Foundation and one SkyHydrant GEM unit from Disaster Aid Australia, the team mobilized water filtration units across some of the hardest-hit barangays in Baganga: Saoquigui, Lucod, Dapnan, Lambahon, Campawan and Kinablangan.



Brgy. Saoquigui



Brgy. Lucod



Brgy. Campawan



Brgy. Lambahon



Brgy. Kinablangan

To maximize reach, the SWAT implemented a mobile deployment strategy. The Max and GEM units were temporarily installed in specific barangays, allowing communities to access clean water overnight. The units were then carefully pulled out the next day and moved to other barangays, still waiting for safe drinking water. Despite continuous aftershocks, the team pressed on, reaching remote and difficult areas, some of which had no water source at all, a reality that deeply saddened responders.



Mobile water distribution at Barangay Kinablangan, Baganga, Davao Oriental



Residents fetching clean water at Barangay Dapnan



*Safe Water Action Team with former
Barangay Chairwoman Mera Adlawan Ching*



The first SkyHydrant unit installed in the Philippines at Barangay Ban-ao, Baganga in 2013 during Typhoon Pablo Emergency Response

While in Baganga, the team revisited Barangay Ban-ao, where the first SkyHydrant in the area was installed in 2013 during Typhoon Pablo emergency response, sponsored by Disaster Aid Australia. After more than 10 years of service, the unit is no longer functional. Unfortunately, the community has reverted to fetching unfiltered water directly from the reservoir, exposing them to risks, especially during disasters.

When the earthquake struck, Disaster Aid Australia volunteers were immediately mobilized. They flew to Mati and brought three Rapid Response SkyHydrant GEM units. For a week, they distributed clean drinking water and essential items in evacuation centers and assessed damage across the affected sites.





Barangay San Ignacio, Manay, Davao Oriental with DAA Volunteers and LGU

At the end of their mission, DAA installed two of the GEM units, one in Barangay San Ignacio in the Municipality of Manay and the other one in Barangay Ban-ao, Baganga restoring access to clean and safe water after years without a functioning filter. The team is now identifying one more barangay in Davao Oriental that will receive the third GEM unit, ensuring another community gains long-term access to safe drinking water.



Fixed installation at Barangay Ban-ao, Baganga with Disaster Aid Australia

This coordinated response shows the power of partnership SWFEC-Ph, SkyJuice Foundation, Disaster Aid Australia, and the local government working together to ensure that even in the middle of a disaster, no family is left without one of life's most essential needs: clean, safe water.



**SAFE WATER
FOR EVERY CHILD
Philippines**

