

Captions:

## **SIGNOS:** **A re-telling of resilience** **after the strongest storm**

Photographic documentary by

**Veejay VILLAFRANCA**

The Philippines, 2009 - 2015



Photo 01 - Typhoon Ketsana released a record amount of rainfall in 24 hours flooding a huge part of the northern Philippines including affluent communities in the Greater Manila Area in 2009. This event signalled a series of stronger storms and abrupt change in weather patterns causing communities to be displaced due to the rise in water levels in different parts of the country.



Photo 02 - A victim who was trapped in her house inside an affluent neighbourhood is carried on a muddy stretcher by Philippine Army soldiers the day after Typhoon Ketsana unleashed a record amount of rainfall triggering mudslides and severe flooding in several parts of the city.



Photo 03 - A man cleans his jeepney trying to get back into the daily life after a mudflow ravaged through their village.



Photo 04 - Residents of one of the flooded neighbourhoods in Manila stand by their flooded houses as they await for relief packs from local authorities.



**Photo 05 -** Residents of Little Kibungan town in the northern province of Benguet sit on the side of the crevasse weeks after a landslide tore through their town killing over a hundred residents.



**Photo 06 -** The strawberry fields in Benguet province, a landmark and tourist destination frequented by local and foreign visitors, are threatened of being heavily damaged due to the mudslides and torrential rains.



**Photo 07 -** A worker walks through a dust wall caused by the pyroclastic sand discharged by the 1991 Mount Pinatubo eruption.



**Photo 08 -** Displaced residents of several towns in Laguna were housed in a rundown cola factory after severe monsoon rains kept them away from their houses as floodwaters stagnated creating a health hazard.



**Photo 09 -** Evacuees from the town of Guiuan await to board a foreign military plane almost a month after Typhoon Haiyan, the strongest storm to ever make landfall, ravaged through the province.



**Photo 10 -** Children wearing angel's wings walk the streets of Guiuan town, a month after Typhoon Haiyan made its first landfall in the province.



**Photo 11 -** Children scour for scrap materials amidst debris and what remains of a community in Leyte town.



**Photo 12 -** - A man walks through a thick smog as he scavenges for things he can sell at the junk shop to earn an extra living as the aid flow during the first month after Typhoon Haiyan hit was scarce.



**Photo 13 -** A washed out photo album lays atop a garbage pile in one of the flooded villages in Tacloban town.



**Photo 14 -** A commercial plane flies over a damaged village in Tacloban City.



**Photo 15 -** The strength of the tidal surge was the culprit that killed thousands as it ravaged through coastal towns going to at least a thousand meters inland.



Photo 16 - More than the human cost, Typhoon Haiyan caused a sizeable damage to the coconut and other agricultural industries making it doubly hard for the survivors to make decent earning.



Photo 17 - The threat of contagious diseases and other health concerns started to hound the survivors living in temporary shelters months after Typhoon Haiyan's devastation.



Photo 18 - Depression and psychological trauma were hardly tackled by news outlets and organisations when they were reporting the aftermath of the storm. The immense destruction, the loss and the events that unfolded after the storm passed contribute a lot to the depression and trauma that the survivors undergo which can manifest in their change of behaviour.



Photo 19 - Over two thousand wooden crosses are lined up in Holy Cross Memorial Park as a marker for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan.



Photo 20 - A patient in a psychiatric ward in a government facility in Leyte province awaits for her morning meal and medication. Depression and trauma was hardly tackled by news outlets and aid organisations during the recovery period following Typhoon Haiyan's wrath.