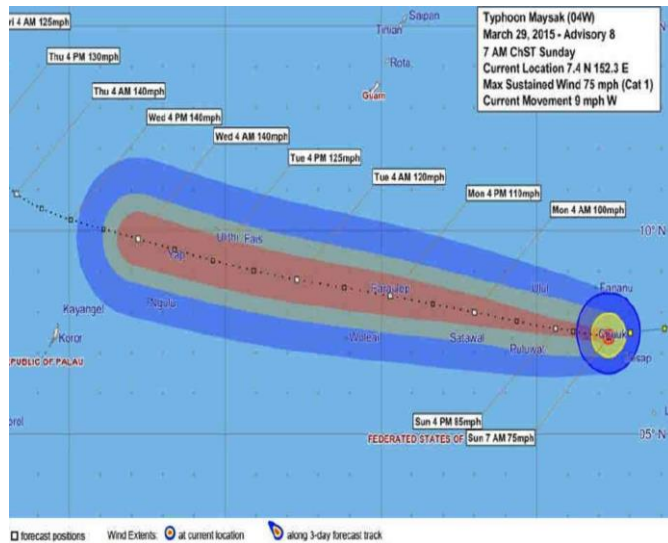


# Federated States of Micronesia

## Tropical Cyclone Maysak

Situation Report: April 6, 2015



### Background

**Chuuk State** is an island group in the western half of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and is located about 621 miles (1,000 kilometers) southeast of Guam. The lagoon is 140 miles across (225 kilometers) with 11 high mangrove fringed islands, and 14 additional outlying atolls and low lying islands outside the lagoon which make up Chuuk State. The population as of the 2010 FSM Chuuk State Census was 48,651. The islands in the main lagoon (including Faichuuk and Namoneas have a combined population of approximately 35,000 people while the outer

islands (including Mortlocks and Hall) have a combined population of 14,000. Approximately 70% of Chuuk's population lives outside the main island of Weno, where there is limited infrastructure.

**Yap State** consists of 18 populated islands and atolls stretching across over 100,000 square miles (259,067 square kilometers). There are four major islands: Yap, Gagil-Tomil, Maap and Rumung. To the East and South of Yap island there are 18 inhabited islands and atolls: Ngulu, Fadarai, Mogmog, Asor, Falaop Ulithi, Fais, Eauripik, Falalis, Wottegai, Seliap, Tagailap, Falalop Woleai, Ifalik, Feraulap, Piig, Elato, Lamotrek, and Satawal. The population as of the 2010 FSM Yap State census was 11,376.

On March 27 Typhoon Maysak entered FSM waters and crossed directly over Chuuk State as a Category 2 Typhoon on March 28 and 29. It increased in strength as it continued to Yap State on March 31 and April 1. Governor Johnson Elimo of Chuuk and Governor Tony Ganngiyan of Yap each declared a State of Emergency on March 30 and 1 April, respectively. FSM President Mori declared a National State of Emergency on March 30 for Chuuk and amended it to include Yap following that state's declaration. A combination of local, national, and international human and financial resources are being mobilized to meet urgent humanitarian needs.

## Situation Overview

- The FSM and State Governments are providing logistics support to facilitate the movement of relief items throughout the affected areas. Under the leadership of each state’s Disaster Coordination Officer (DCO) in the Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), IOM is closely coordinating with state-level departments, the Micronesian Red Cross Society, and local partners. The IOM/Micronesia Chief of Mission continues to liaison with the FSM National Government, donors, and key partners in Pohnpei.
- State-level service providers – Chuuk Public Utility Corporation (CPUC) and Yap State Public Service Corporation (YSPSC) – are working to restore the provision of services to affected areas.
- IOM initiatives taking place in Chuuk and Yap include:
  - Identifying and targeting humanitarian needs by conducting and supporting DCO-led needs assessments in remote islands
  - Supporting data collection and compilation of needs assessment data
  - Facilitating the provision of immediate assistance through the deployment of pre-positioned relief items from USAID-funded stockpiles of unique humanitarian supplies unavailable in local markets: large rolls of plastic sheeting, high-capacity water bladders, water distribution stands, reverse osmosis water filtration machines, and sealable water containers
- IOM currently has the following staff engaged in the Typhoon Maysak response:
  - 7 staff each in Chuuk and Yap
  - Logistics, procurement, personnel support: 5 in Pohnpei, 1 in Manila

## Chuuk

- The FSM National and Chuuk State Governments are the primary providers of relief assistance and logistics support, which is supplemented by local support and donations.
- IOM Chuuk staff are working closely with Chuuk State EOC to coordinate further needs assessments, which are more logistically difficult to achieve than in Yap. Though the winds were at a higher speed while travelling through Yap, the more moderate level of damage within Chuuk state is reported to be spread across a number of lagoon and outer islands.
- USAID-funded pre-positioned water- and shelter-related items in Pohnpei were mobilized to Chuuk via a national patrol boat that arrived on April 5: water bladders, tap stands, plastic sheeting, and rope.
- USAID-funded prepositioned items from Majuro, RMI, are being mobilized to Chuuk: portable reverse osmosis units, hygiene kits, jerry cans, and chlorine tablets to ensure the provision of clean water.
- Assessment reports in Weno and Chuuk’s lagoon islands detail damage to food crops (from both wind and salt water inundation), water catchments, homes, and public infrastructure. Recent reports indicate that some populations displaced immediately after the storm have now returned

to their homes. Some residents report that catchment water is contaminated by debris, and that they are not drinking from them, and only using contaminated water for bathing and washing.

### Yap

- The FSM National and Yap State Governments are the primary providers of relief assistance and logistics support, which is supplemented by an outpouring of local support and donations.
- A vessel loaded with a substantive donation of food, water, and relief items from Yap State, the Red Cross, and local/regional well-wishers – estimated by Yap State to provide basic food and water needs for more than one week – arrived in Falalop, Ulithi the morning of April 6. This supplements the relief items that have been provided from multiple daily flights from Pacific Mission Aviation (PMA) which served as a key lifeline for immediate needs in the hours and days following the storm.
- On April 7, USAID-funded reverse osmosis filtration units and solar panels – to provide decentralized water production capacity – will arrive in Yap, deployed from the USAID-funded prepositioned relief item warehouse in Majuro. These will be mobilized in the islands of Ulithi in order to reduce the logistics required to bring potable water to affected populations.
- Ulithi atoll – particularly Falalaop – remains in need of emergency shelter materials; USAID-funded and IOM-distributed emergency tarps arrived on the April 6<sup>th</sup> vessel.
- An FSM National Government Vessel is carrying relief supplies and an assessment team through the eastern islands of Yap, and will visit Faraulep – reported to have sustained damaging winds – in the coming days.
- The level of damage received via radio and aerial reports from islands in Ulithi beyond Falalaop is lesser but reported to be of substantive concern – a moderate to severe level of destruction to infrastructure, food crops, and private housing. Additional, in-depth assessments are planned to start Wednesday, April 9, and will likely include reporting from Fais and Faraulep.