

# DOWN to EARTH

Emmanuel International UK News  
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## NOVEMBER 2015

### Ormoc Housing Project in the Philippines

On 8 November 2013, tropical storm Haiyan (Yolanda) made its landfall in Ormoc, Eastern Leyte. It devastated about 95% of the whole area of the city, displaced 97% of the total 43,729 households, totally destroyed 6,782 houses, and partially damaged 711 others. Haiyan was the deadliest Philippines typhoon recorded in modern history, killing 6 300 people in this country alone.



With other partner collaborators, Emmanuel Relief & Rehabilitation Philippines (ERRP) actively responded to the damage left in the wake of Haiyan, engaging in delivery of food and non-food items during the emergency relief stage.

They also provided shelter recovery programs and carefully assessed the situation, particularly in assisting with the damaged houses in the urban poor relocation sites. One such area was at Barangay San Pablo, Ormoc City. Of the 1500 houses in the urban poor relocation site, 450 houses were totally destroyed. These houses were mostly owned by sugarcane plantation tenants, earning about US\$ 88 a month.

In total 45 houses will be built, all of which have the frames (4 posts and a roof) raised, but no walls or floors. Five of the houses are completed with the

help of two teams from Canada The project was started by a Brazilian group, but they ran out of funds. They wish to build another 40 houses, at the cost of CAD2000 (£990) each.



**The wooden frames being erected.**



**The roofs are on.**



**A house nearing completion.**

Pastor Alex Dane was in charge of this project. He was looking for another sponsor and asked Pastor Alex Pacis, Chairman of the ERRP Board, to help. During a visit that Pastor Pacis made to Ormoc, Pastor Dane travelled from his hometown in the south for two days to meet with EI, but he never showed up. Later that day, it was discovered that he had a stroke while travelling. He was rushed to the hospital. Pastor Pacis and Pastor Noel Taban managed to visit him in hospital, where they saw him in ICU, comatose. He did not survive and left a young family behind.

Pastor Dane had a heart for the rebuilding of houses for these people in Ormoc and he passed his passion to EI in the Philippines.



## Teams helped build houses

Two short term teams visited the Philippines to help with building of the houses. One team completed 3 houses and another 2 houses.



There is the opportunity for a team from the UK to go to Ormoc to help with the building of these houses. Please contact the EIUK office if you are interested.

Please pray for the families in Ormoc who have lost their homes and so much more. Pray for ERRP as they help some families to rebuild their lives as they find a place to call home, and for funds for this project.



*Pastor Alex Pacis,  
Chairman of the ERRP  
board.*

*Information and  
photographs supplied  
by Pastor Noel Taban,  
Project Management  
Coordinator ERRP.*



## Rebuilding a church in Malawi, after the floods

In January 2015 an enormous amount of rain fell in Malawi, causing widespread damage. People lost their homes and their crops. Some of the church buildings of our partner church, Word of God Church, were severely damaged or destroyed. The church in Mwaye, a grass building, was completely blown down and the church had to be rebuilt.



The grass of the blown-down church is in the foreground. The bricks that the church made for rebuilding are in the background.



Some of the funds that were raised through EIUK for the flood relief were used by the Mwaye church to help them complete the building, and paid for the roof to be put on.

The rebuild “is a great blessing to the members of the church. God bless you all for your kindly support on our church”, says Pastor Moses Nkhata.

### Dates for your diary

**EIUK Annual General Meeting and Conference: Saturday 6 February 2016.**  
We are again meeting in City Temple, London. More details to follow.