

Strong Typhoon Bopha Threatens the southern Philippines

Typhoon Bopha, striking with heavy rainfall and gusts of 210 km/hr, made landfall in the economy's Mindanao Island early on Tuesday. The powerful storm has caused widespread power cuts and disruption in transportation. Furthermore, flooding triggered by the storm threatens areas at risk of landslides, and More than 40 thousand residents were moved to shelter to avoid the danger. Bopha was moving west and expected to pass southern and central provinces as it headed towards the South China Sea.

A year ago, Mindanao Island was struck by severe tropical storm Washi, which triggered fatal flooding causing at least 1,200 lives. Bopha is said probably the strongest to hit the economy this year, but "we can minimize the damage and loss of lives if we help each other," according to President Aquino.