

Typhoon Bopha Caused Considerable Casualties in Southern Philippines

As of its landfall early Tuesday, the intense storm Bopha (top winds of 110 mph then) has affected more than 120,000 people in the southern island of Mindanao. So far more than 77 deaths have been reported and at least 85,000 in evacuation centers. Bopha, the most powerful storm to hit Mindanao in decades, demolished numerous houses and triggered a landslide that blocked a highway. Workers are striving to clear the way and release the stranded people. The storm moved west northwest across the island, bringing torrential rains in wide areas and thus raising the risk of mudslides and floods. Nonetheless, the local authorities have done well relocating residents in hazardous areas.