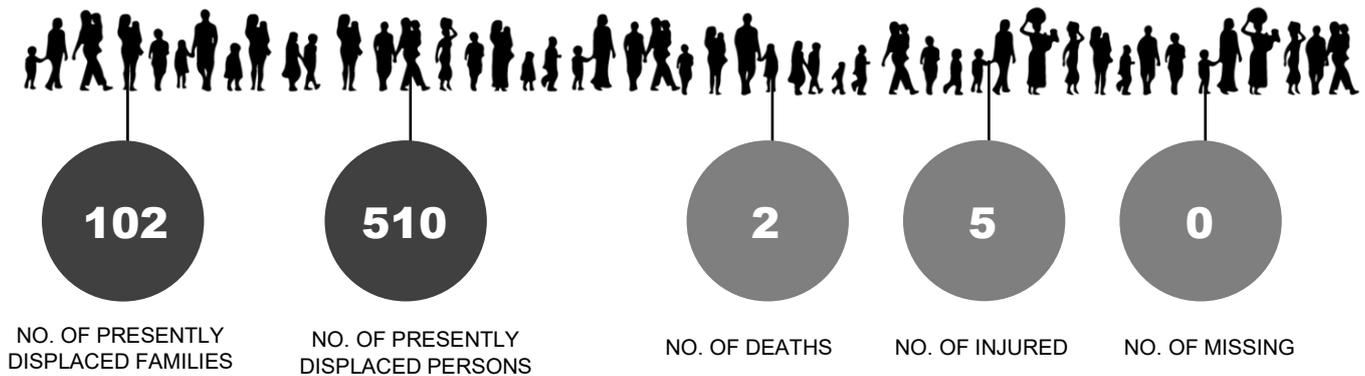


IDP PROTECTION ASSESSMENT REPORT (IDPPAR)

Forced Displacement in Hadji Mohammad Ajul, Basilan due to Clan Feud

Reporting Period: 30 December 2021 - 06 January 2022

KEY FIGURES



INCIDENT BACKGROUND

On 28 December 2021, at around 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon, a series of armed encounter occurred between two warring families in Brgy. Langong in the municipality of Hadji Mohammad Ajul, Basilan Province. The incident resulted to a displacement, as well as the death of a 17-year-old civilian, while another five were left wounded. According to the reports from the protection partners and affirmed by the barangay officials, they were all not involved in the conflict but were only caught in the crossfire.

On 29 December 2021, at around 6:30 in the morning another encounter ensued in Brgy. Candiis in the same municipality which resulted to the death of one senior citizen, aged 76-year-old. The authorities believed that the incident is a retaliatory action of the previous encounter in Brgy. Langong.

The displaced families who sought temporary shelter within their relatives are still reluctant to return due to their fear of possible escalation of the conflict. The Municipal Peace and Order Council (MPOC) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) have already intervened to pacify the matter.

Based on the initial assessment conducted by the protection partners and barangay officials, a total of 102 families (approximately 510 individuals) are still displaced within the municipality, unaccounted numbers of houses were also damaged because of the indiscriminate firing from both sides.

Due to the number of casualties on both sides including untimely death of civilians, there is no clear timeframe yet as to when the issue can be resolved.

CURRENT SITUATION

On 06 January 2022, a joint protection monitoring was conducted by the Bangsamoro Human Rights Commission (BHRC), Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP) and Tiyakap Kalilintad Inc. (TKI) to assess the general situation of the displaced families.

Based on the information, the displaced families opted to stay within their relatives to ensure safety of their families. According to some IDPs interviewed by the team, there are already efforts from the Provincial Government of Basilan and representatives from the members of the parliament to resolve the issue in peaceful manner. However, most of IDPs are apprehensive that the conflict will not be resolved in due time because of the lives lost rooted way back in 1980s. Both, BHRC and NP are lobbying for the complementation of the support provided to address the needs of the displaced families as well as special attention to people with specific needs particularly the senior citizens. Some of the displaced families assessed by the partners, reiterated support from the concerned authorities for a peaceful resolution, food, and shelter materials assistance for the damaged houses.

PROTECTION ISSUES, RESPONSES, AND GAPS

THREAT TO LIFE, SAFETY AND SECURITY	<i>Protection assessment considers the various threats to life, safety and security of displaced persons stemming from crime, violence, armed conflict or nature disaster.</i>
ISSUES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The displaced families and some of the members of the community expressed concerns on their safety as the situation remains volatile. They are apprehensive that retaliatory attack is still possible as situation remain unaddressed despite intervention from MPOC and AFP. They particularly mentioned that they fear being caught in the crossfire citing what had happened to the civilians who were hit by the stray bullets. b. Death and wounding of civilians. The report from the barangay officials includes death of one minor (male, 17-year-old) and senior citizen (male, aged 76), as well as wounding of another five individuals. 	
RESPONSES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. For the time being, elements of the AFP were deployed in the area to pacify the tension. The MPOC has already convened to resolve the issue. The team was informed that as of January 06, 2022, the AFP already pulled-out in the area. b. The MPOC, headed by their local chief executives, has reached out to the conflicting parties and families of the victims for possible peaceful resolution. c. The Provincial Government of Basilan and some members of the Parliament have also intervened and sent their representatives to conduct peaceful dialogue with the parties involved for a peaceful resolution. d. BHRC and NP conducted follow up monitoring in the displacement location to assess the general condition as well as the identify other needs of the IDPs. 	
NEEDS / GAPS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continuous monitoring on the situation until all IDPs have returned to their places of origin. Referral of protection issues to concerned authorities. 	

ACCESS TO FOOD AID, NUTRITION & LIVELIHOOD	<i>Ensure that IDPs receive a minimum basic food ration</i>
ISSUES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Displaced families disclosed that they have not received any food assistance. They expressed concern over food shortage if displacement will prolong. b. The displaced families have not received other assistance provided last January 01, 2022. Some families shared that they rely on the resources of their host. However, they also mentioned that the heads of the family can still visit their places of origin to collect vegetables. Some are also engaged in labor works to sustain daily needs. 	
RESPONSES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The MLGU and the BLGU provided food packs on January 01, 2022. b. The concern was referred to the Municipal Social Worker Officer (MSWO) and Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO) for appropriate action. 	
NEEDS / GAPS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continuous monitoring of the IDP situation and augmentation of food packs while return is not yet possible. 	

ACCESS TO SHELTER	<i>Meet the need for roofing and other materials from local sources if possible</i>
ISSUES	
a. Some of the assessed IDPs shared that at least four houses were partially damaged.	
RESPONSES	
a. BLGU-Candiis conducted initial assessment to determine the extent of damages.	
b. The concern was referred to the Municipal Social Worker Officer (MSWO) and Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO) for appropriate action.	
NEEDS / GAPS	
a. Assessment and referral of the issue to concerned authorities for possible intervention such as provision of cash assistance or shelter materials for the house repair.	
b. Provision of cash assistance and/or shelter repair materials.	

HOUSING, LAND AND PROPERTY	<i>Ensure that deprivation of land, homes and other property of individuals as a result or cause of displacement must be properly monitored and addressed</i>
ISSUES	
a. At least four houses have been assessed damaged by the barangay officials. Accordingly, these houses were hit by stray bullets.	
RESPONSES	
a. The BLGU conducted initial assessment to determine the extent of the damage.	
b. The BLGU aided by securing the livestock and other properties of the displaced families.	
c. The MLGU-Hadji Mohammad Ajul in coordination with the Municipal PNP conducted assessment and proper documentation of the damage houses.	
NEEDS / GAPS	
a. Proper documentation and referral of the issue to concerned authorities for possible support to repair the damaged part of the houses	

ACCESS TO EDUCATION	<i>Particular attention must be placed on the risks faced by adolescent girls, such as lack of access to education</i>
ISSUES	
a. For the time being, the Parents and Teachers Association (PTA) in Brgy. Candiis agreed to postpone the submission of modules to prioritize safety of everyone.	
RESPONSES	
a. Continuous monitoring on the security situation of the community.	
b. The PTA agreed to meet in Lamitan City for the collection and submission of modules.	
NEEDS / GAPS	
a. Continuous monitoring of the IDP situation.	

ACCESS TO HEALTH	<i>Ensure that IDPs have access to basic health care and facilities during displacement</i>
ISSUES	
a. Some of the IDPs assessed, especially those pregnant women, have shown signs of distress as a result of the incident.	
RESPONSES	
a. The barangay health worker conducted house to house visit where IDPs were located to check on the status and condition of the people with specific needs (PWSNs), including pregnant women.	
b. The concern was referred to the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO) for appropriate action.	
NEEDS / GAPS	
a. Provide psychosocial debriefing for IDPs, especially the PWSNs.	

SUPPORT TO PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS	<i>Ensure that specific needs of the most vulnerable members or groups of the displaced population are being targeted and addressed</i>
ISSUES	
a. Presence of PWSNs. Per report from the protection partners, there are five pregnant women and nine senior citizens that are affected and displaced by the incident. Some of them have showed signs of distress or, at least, a stage of profound stress.	
RESPONSES	
a. The barangay health worker conducted house to house visit to check the status and condition of the PWSNs. b. The municipal local government unit (MLGU) of Mohammad Ajul provided cash assistance amounting to P5,000 for the PWNS.	
NEEDS / GAPS	
a. Continuous monitoring of the IDP situation.	

NEEDS ANALYSIS	REMARKS
PROTECTION	Strong intervention of the MPOC to resolve the issue. BGU and protection partners to continue monitoring the situation of the IDPs until return is not yet possible.
FOOD	BLGU to materialize the 5 percent calamity fund for food augmentation.
SHELTER	Assess the situation of the IDPs in their host families to determine their needs for shelter. If possible, relocation to avoid congestion in one house.
WASH	Ensure that displaced families have access to basic water services and latrine
EDUCATION	The submission of modules and reporting of the faculty and staff was suspended until further notice because of the unstable security situation on the community.
HLP	Proper documentation and referral of the issue to concerned authorities for possible support for the repair of the houses damaged.
SAFETY & SECURITY	The displaced families raised to have a good resolution of the conflict to address the concern of warring families to ensure that this will not take place again allowing them to live peacefully.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- a. Barangay Local Government Unit (BLGU) - Langong
- b. Barangay Local Government Unit (BLGU) - Candiis
- c. Inter-island Protection Action and Réponse Team (i-PART)
- d. Tiyakap Kalilintad Inc.
- e. Bangsamoro Human Rights Commission (BHRC) – Basilan Chapter
- f. Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP)



IDP PROTECTION ASSESSMENT REPORT

The IDP Protection Assessment Form (IDPPAR) aims to provide a starting point for information and analysis that can help humanitarian agencies, policy makers and other stakeholders concerning instances of forced displacement or solutions (repatriation, resettlement, integration). To the extent possible, the terminology used in the IDPPAR reflects the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and other sources of international law and practice. The information reported in the IDP Protection Assessment Forms has been received from members of the Protection Cluster across Mindanao. Consequently, unreported cases of forced displacement and solutions are not reflected. Updates will be provided as and when more information is received from members. The number of people displaced/affected may differ from the number in need of humanitarian assistance. Although efforts are made to verify the data, the Protection Cluster takes no responsibility for the incompleteness or inaccuracy of the information. The information provided in this IDPPAR does not necessarily reflect the views of UNHCR or any individual member of the Protection Cluster.

MINDANAO VIRTUAL PROTECTION COORDINATION PLATFORM

In the present circumstances where limited physical access to IDPs is possible, and humanitarian actors are adjusting response using alternative modalities to access people in need including relying on social media, phones and other online communication tools to maintain regular communication with protection monitors within IDP community, as well as host communities, Mindanao Virtual Protection Coordination Platform (MVPCP) was created to strengthen coordination among relevant actors with a protection role (from regional and provincial down to municipal and community level) in Mindanao during this pandemic.

Under the leadership of the Department of Social Welfare and Development and the Ministry of Social Services and Development and with full participation of key state agencies: BARMM READI and IATF, members of MVPCP will work closely to ensure that COVID-19 related prevention and response initiatives at the national level will include IDPs and ensure they have access to basic services. Members of the MVPCP will work closely to ensure timely prevention of and response to protection issues in Mindanao including BARMM region and facilitate timely information-sharing with the IDP community on health measures in response to COVID-19.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

UNHCR works in partnership with government entities, INGOs, NGOs, CSOs, and UN Agencies, and other organizations. Its primary role is to share information on protection risks and needs and to facilitate coordinated intervention among the various actors involved in IDP protection. UNHCR has a project partnership with CFSI, CHR, ACCORD, MMI, KI, TKI, ACTED and IRDT covering Mindanao island including BARMM region. In addition to its project partnership, UNHCR works closely with local authorities and Mindanao Humanitarian Team Actors including: UNICEF | IOM | OCHA | UNDP | UNFPA | UNHABITAT | WFP | WHO | OXFAM | ACTION AGAINST HUNGER | CARE | UNWOMEN | ICRC | SAVE THE CHILDREN | KFPDI | PRC.

For more information, please visit the Protection Cluster website <http://www.protectioncluster.org/philippines/> or e-mail us at PHICOPRC@unhcr.org.