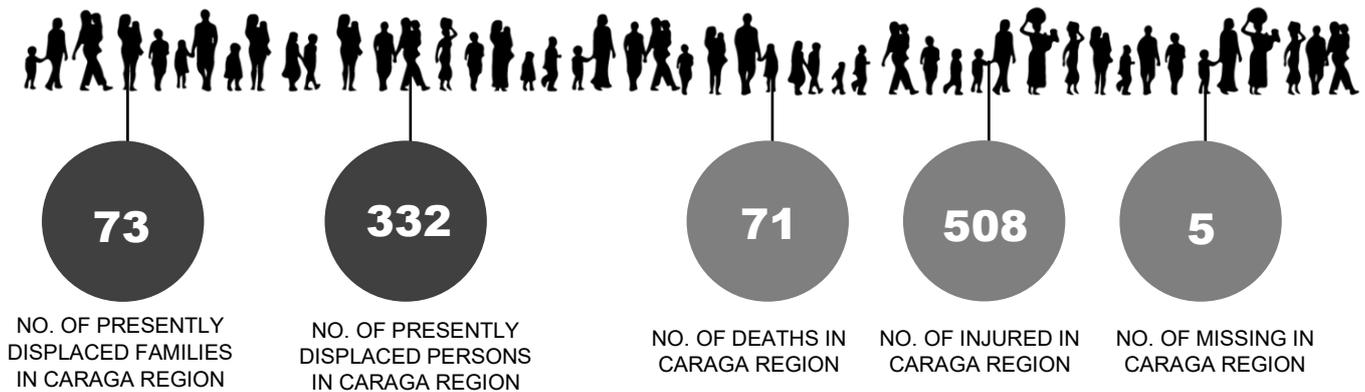


IDP PROTECTION ASSESSMENT REPORT (IDPPAR)

Displacement due to Super Typhoon Rai (Odette)

Reporting Period: 01 – 30 April 2022

KEY FIGURES¹



INCIDENT BACKGROUND

Super Typhoon Rai (local name Odette) swept through the Philippines and made its first landfall on 16 December 2021 in the coastal areas of Surigao del Norte, Dinagat Islands, Southern Leyte, Cebu, and Bohol. The typhoon brought with it torrential rainfalls, violent winds, floods and storm surges leaving a wake of destruction on its pathway.

As of 19 December 2021, around 77,000 families (approximately 298,000 persons) from 531 barangays across the five provinces of the region was affected by the typhoon. Some affected populations who preemptively evacuated have already returned home, but others whose houses were partially or totally damaged decided to stay in evacuation centers. Of the total reported affected population, around 66,000 families (approximately 255,000 persons) have sought refuge either inside evacuation centers or in home-based settings.

CURRENT SITUATION

Four (4) months after the onslaught of the Super Typhoon Rai (locally known as Odette) in December 2021 that caused not only massive displacement but also loss of life and damage to properties, more than 6,000 people remain displaced. To date, a total of over two (2) million people have been reportedly affected by the typhoon. Out of this numbers, a significant number of individuals are still living in evacuation centers waiting for the government's relocation. According to the government's Disaster Response Operation Monitoring and Information Center (DROMIC) report as of end of April 2022, 73 families or approximately 332 individuals remain in 6 evacuation centers in five (5) provinces in Caraga, while 1,549 families or approximately 5,898 individuals remain displaced in Southern Leyte.

While response slowly transitions to early recovery and many families have already returned to their places of origin, many people are still left in complete devastation without stable shelter, access to essential services and health care, adequate food supply, and access to protective services. Given the extent of damage left by the typhoon, the affected

¹ DSWD DROMIC as of 29 March 2022, Caraga Region and NDRRMC SitRep No. 46 for Typhoon Odette as of 21 February 2022

families anticipate that it may still take some time to reach full recovery. Meanwhile, the No Build Zone (NBZ) policy which discourages communities not to return to the sites of their original homes and preventing them to build along the coastal areas, poses a setback to the ongoing rebuilding efforts. This also further exacerbates the typhoon-affected population's exposure to protection risks.

Compounding the displaced families' situation, the Tropical Storm Megi (locally known as Agaton) also struck in early April 2022, across many of the same areas affected by STY Rai/Odette, causing floods and landslides affecting at least 2,260,000 people. Based on initial assessments, food aid and emergency shelter are some of the primary needs expressed by the affected families. However, in light of the upcoming national elections on 9 May, local government agencies are restricted from responding to the situation due to the election ban (COMELEC Resolution No. 10747) which prohibits any public official or employee to release, disburse, or expend public funds effective until 8 May 2022.

While host communities can absorb shocks and fill in humanitarian gaps in providing support to displaced families, the prolonged hosting of IDPs may strain their own food supply and the services within the community which may result to tense relationships and conflict. Even in situations where IDPs are able to return, many of the affected communities remain vulnerable to further displacement due to the lack of concrete support to help in facilitating their recovery. In addition, the lack of consultation with affected population on decisions that affect them also remains to be a gap. This also adds up to the uncertainties, which, in effect causes psychosocial distress among them.

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	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In Surigao City, around 179 displaced Bajau families are still living beside the road under makeshift shelters that were built out of salvaged materials. These families are exposed to further protection and safety risks, especially the small children who play by the side of the road unattended. According to the City LGU, these families could not be relocated yet due to strong oppositions by the receiving community in the proposed relocation site. 2. People in makeshift shelters that were built out of salvaged materials are exposed to safety and security risks as well as health risks due to the inadequate protection that the temporary shelters offer. The return of IDPs prior to clearing of debris continue to pose risks to the physical safety of the affected population. In San Francisco, Surigao del Norte and in the island barangays of Surigao City, there are IDPs who got cuts and scrape wounds from the debris. According to reports, clearing of areas is slowly progressing. 3. Brgys. Caridad and Bailan of Pilar, Brgy Corazon and Libertad of General Luna, Barangay Garcia of Sta Monica, Barangay Bitaug of Burgos, and Barangay Bongdo of San Benito, are still flooded. Given that these barangays are located at the downstream, floodwater from the upstream barangays flow into the area. The flooding is exacerbated by malfunctioning drainage by DPWH. During heavy rains, the residents evacuate to safer grounds. 	
RESPONSES	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DSWD Caraga Field Office reported a total of 43,755 beneficiaries who were already served with financial assistance thru AICS with a total amount of PhP 218,775,000.00. 2. Continuous coordination and technical assistance with the affected LGUs on the encoding of DAFAC Forms and submission of master list of affected families. 3. Continuous coordination with the LGUs on the continuous provision of third round of augmentation assistance to the affected families. 	

- Facilitated the delivery of food and non-food items to the LGUs of Alegria, Surigao Del Norte (5,400 FFPs and 376 Kitchen Kits) and Bacuag, Surigao Del Norte (4,406 FFPs) on 7 April 2022.

NEEDS / GAPS

- Continued assessment of the needs for food aid especially concerning families whose livelihood sources and activities have not yet been fully restored.
- Provision of adequate recovery assistance to families in flood-prone barangays such as a functional drainage system. The lack of water outlet causes flooding in these barangays. (Issue point 3)

ACCESS TO LIFELINES AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Ensure that basic lifeline support is functional to facilitate the speedy delivery of response

ISSUES

- Electricity remains unavailable in some parts of Surigao Del Norte and Dinagat Island province (please see status of lifelines below). IDPs in home-based settings or returned sites have no proper source of lighting. This situation may pose safety and security risks to IDPs, especially to women and children, to the sick and the elderly, especially at night. In Siargao Island, the majority still has no access to electricity. IDPs need to pay P20- P60 for charging cellphone and laptop.
- The dock-in port in the island barangay of Catadman, Surigao City is damaged, causing more difficulties in the delivery of assistance to the barangay.
- At least ten (10) displaced families from Sitio Iba of Barangay Datu in Pilar Municipality in Siargao island have built makeshift shelters using tarps and salvaged materials along the national highway. These families are not able to return to their habitual residences due to the presence of debris in their areas. They continue to face potential safety and protection risks due to the unsafe location, inadequate shelter space and lack of access to basic services and humanitarian assistance. As expressed by the families, some of their pressing needs include food and water supply and access to sustainable livelihoods. Before the typhoon, these families used to be engaged in informal work such as home-based livelihoods, food vending, and selling of non-food items.

RESPONSES

- Electricity in San Jose Municipality in Dinagat Island had been fully restored, while the rest of municipalities are considered as partially restored including those in Siargao Island and the mainland of Surigao Del Norte and Surigao City.
- With regard to restoration of telecommunication networks, Globe network is now 100% operational in Dinagat while 75 to 80% in Surigao Del Norte. Smart network is also around 11% operational in Dinagat while 52-54% operational in Surigao Del Norte province.

NEEDS / GAPS

- Need to continue to address remaining humanitarian needs while in transition phase from emergency to early recovery - approach must be designed from dole out to self-reliance approach
- Need to continue to advocate for the inclusion of the home-based IDPs and other IDPs in informal settlements in government assistance programs
- Continued advocacy to strengthen LGU assessments of home-based IDPs and those who are outside of evacuation centers.
- Advocacy for the inclusion of families who are renters/sharers but had been in the locality for several years to be considered in relocation projects and provision of shelter kits assistance
- While electricity restoration is still on going, provision of solar lamps/lights as alternative solution is needed to mitigate the risks being faced by affected families, especially the women and children who are vulnerable to any type of gender and sexual violence. Priority should be given to those living in remote and island barangays without adequate access to lifelines and electricity.

Status of restoration of lifelines:

a. Electricity

PROVINCE	STATUS		
	PARTIALLY RESTORED	FULLY RESTORED	FOR RESTORATION
DINAGAT ISLANDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dinagat Loreto Cagdianao Basilisa Tubajon Libjo (Albor) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> San Jose 	
SURIGAO DEL NORTE (MAINLAND)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alegria Claver Gigaquit Mainit Placer Sison Surigao City Tagana-an Tubod Bacuag 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Malimono San Francisco
SURIGAO DEL NORTE (SIARGAO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burgos Dapa Socorro General Luna Pilar Del Carmen San Isidro San Benito Santa Monica 		

b. Water supply

Area		Status
Dinagat Islands	Basilisa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water supply is already restored to all barangays.
	Dinagat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Magsaysay and Wadas Refilling Stations are functional Brgy. Cab-ilan and Cabayawan depend on rainwater, occasionally fetch water from nearby barangays Has 7 jetmatic pumps (center)
	Cagdianao	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% of main water supply are fully restored 20% of damaged wells are restored
	Loreto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water supply is already restored to all barangays.
	Libjo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70% restored
	San Jose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Totally restored
	Tubajon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water supply is already restored to all barangays.
Surigao Del Norte	General Luna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 1 water source is operational since 19 December 2021
	San Isidro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 3 water source operational since 19 December 2021
	Socorro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water sources are temporarily repaired and are partially operational.
	Entire Siargao Island,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water refilling stations are already open.

Area		Status
	Surigao del Norte	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 3 water source is partially operational
	Surigao City and Mainland LGUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major water sources incurred damages on their main pipelines and water system resulting to lack of water supply. Some municipalities utilized deep well, springs, and available reservoir. Surigao City water supply is fully restored.

ACCESS TO FOOD AID, NUTRITION & LIVELIHOOD

Ensure that IDPs receive a minimum basic food ration

ISSUES

- Food supply remains a concern for most of the IDPs due to the lack of access to various sources of income especially for those in the hardly hit barangays. Most of the families who had gone home rely on assistance from the government and humanitarian agencies, while those who are currently staying with their relatives rely on the food supply of their host families who are also affected by the typhoon. While host families are still able to fill in the gaps in providing support to the displaced families, prolonged hosting may strain their own food supply which may result to tension and conflict, as well as possible violent domestic situations.
- Lack of nutritious food pose potential decline on the nutritional condition of affected population especially among children. The food assistance provided by the local government units are becoming limited and mostly consisting of canned goods. Under the “Pamilya Mo, Pamilya Ko” (PMPK) program, the provincial government continues to provide food items prioritizing families in highly affected areas only.

RESPONSES

- Based on reports from the DSWD Caraga, a total of 75,575 beneficiaries were also covered with financial assistance through the agency’s Assistance to Individuals/Families in Crisis Situation (AICS) program amounting to PhP 377,875,000.

NEEDS / GAPS

- Government to focus on providing sustainable livelihood support prioritizing most vulnerable and hardly hit areas. Without effective livelihood opportunities in new areas, people relocated will either stay and become poorer and more vulnerable to disasters or leave.
- Make livelihoods an integral part of relocation planning which should include meaningful consultations and inclusive processes with the affected communities.
- Support for the re-establishment of livelihood assets to restore income capacity is needed to avoid reliance on food aid and prevent food insecurity and malnutrition.

ACCESS TO NON-FOOD ITEMS

Particular attention should be given to vulnerable persons in need of core relief items.

ISSUES

- In some areas, both displaced families and host families in the severely affected areas receive minimal support in facilitating their recovery. Some IDPs reported that emergency assistance is no longer regularly provided specially non-food items.

RESPONSES

- As of 3 May 2022 report of DSWD Caraga, they have already provided a total of PhP 182,256,419.09 worth of food and non-food items consisting of family kits, hygiene kits, sleeping kits, kitchen sets, laminated sacks, family tents, purified drinking water, malong, mosquito nets and other non-food items in all provinces affected by the typhoon.

NEEDS / GAPS

1. Most of the affected families expressed the need for solar lamps specifically in areas where electricity has not been restored yet.
2. Most of the areas in the mainland of Surigao Del Norte and Dinagat are already covered with Core Relief Items and non-food items by both government and humanitarian organizations, but based on assessments, there is still a need for solar lamps and hygiene items in some of the hard-to-reach island barangays. They receive less assistance due to their remoteness and challenges due to frequent weather disturbances hindering delivery of services.
3. Affected families are requesting to be provided with CGI sheets and lumber so they can start repairing and rebuilding their houses.

ACCESS TO WATER AND SANITATION

Ensure sanitary facilities such as showers, toilets and washing areas are in place

ISSUES

1. Families who had returned and rebuilt their houses in Barangay Poblacion (Boulevard area), and Barangay Poblacion in Pilar and Burgos municipalities have difficulty in accessing sanitary toilets. Due to confusion on No-Build Zones, families had not installed their own toilets because of fear of being evicted or transferred. Most of the IDPs are using the toilets of their neighbors but this also poses them to potential risks especially during nighttime due to the lack of electricity and adequate lighting in the sites.
2. There are some remote barangays in need of support on potable water. Like in Barangay Caub, Municipality of Del Carmen, Siargao. Prior to the typhoon, potable water from the town proper is being delivered by boat, while some relied on rainwater. Water becomes an expensive commodity after the typhoon because many of the boats delivering water are damaged.

RESPONSES

1. Care International and ACCORD will be providing water and other WASH assistance to Barangay Caub, Del Carmen with the support from USAID and IOM Philippines.

NEEDS / GAPS

1. Installation of temporary latrines with adequate water sources and lighting for families in the declared No Build Zone areas (mentioned in issue no. 1) to avoid any possible health risks for the community.

ACCESS TO SHELTER

Meet the need for roofing and other materials from local sources if possible

ISSUES

1. Most of the IDPs have returned to their respective places of origin. Only those IDPs whose houses were totally damaged and have no means to rebuild them are still displaced. However, IDPs who have returned to their habitual places of residences still face further protection risks as most of the affected sites remain uncleared of debris. Moreover, most of those who have returned used salvaged materials in the construction of their makeshift dwellings. Due to this, people are highly exposed to the elements which poses potential adverse impact to their health. Evidently, while most displaced families may have returned, attaining durable solutions with due consideration of their safety and dignity remains to be unaddressed.
2. While some of the affected families have returned to their places of origin, there are still families who remain displaced and have opted to stay in the homes of their relatives or in informal settlements. Most of these home-based IDPs remain to be unaccounted for and have limited access to humanitarian assistance from government and humanitarian actors.
3. Construction materials to repair damaged houses are among the priority needs of the affected

populations in the municipalities of Pilar, Del Carmen, Burgos, Dapa and Sta. Monica of Siargao Island as well as in Libjo Municipality of Dinagat Islands, and some of the island barangays of Surigao City. In Dapa Municipality, they requested for more Galvanized Iron (GI) sheets and other construction materials like plywood for 8,0000 families affected, including marine plywood for the 2,000 fisher folks for the for the construction of new fishing boats.

4. According to reports, the Provincial government through the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office provided cash assistance amounting to PhP1,000 and/or PhP5,000 depending on the family size prioritizing the most vulnerable households. However, according to accounts from IDPs whose houses are within the NBZ, they have not been covered in the said assistance. Based on their claims, they only received assistance from private donors.
5. In Brgy. Cuarinta of San Jose Municipality of Dinagat Island, 200 families will have to be relocated as their habitual residences are within a landslide prone area. The provincial government had allocated funds for this relocation and was also able to receive support from a charitable institution.
6. In Barangay Laguna of Cagdianao Municipality, 48 families will have to be relocated as their habitual residences are within a flood-prone area. The local government is still in the process of identifying the best way to relocate the said families.

RESPONSES

1. Local Government Units are now gearing towards recovery and rehabilitation and focus on providing shelter materials like G.I. sheets, nails, and lumber to families whose houses were partially totally and damaged.
2. Relocation of some 123 families in Surigao City have also started particularly in Barangay Cagniog. The construction of relocation shelters is being manned by 50 representatives from the first batch of 50 families who undergo trainings for carpentry and masonry with TESDA. These trained individuals are also compensated by the LGU. The home construction materials were shouldered by the International Organization for Migration. To fast track the construction of houses, the LGU hired an additional 30 skilled workers; WASH facilities will be provided by UNICEF.
3. CSWDO requested from DSWD Regional Office for kitchen wear kits for IDPs to be relocated.
4. A total of 1,000 households received Shelter Repair Kits in Barangays Quezon, Trinidad, Cabongbongan and Orok in Surigao City. The distribution was facilitated by ACCORD and the barangay councils with funding support from Bureau of Humanitarian Aid (BHA)- International Organization for Migration (IOM).
5. A total of 337 households in Barangay Mabini, and Barangay Datu, Pilar benefited from shelter assistance provided by CARE international in partnership with IOM and ACCORD Inc.

NEEDS / GAPS

1. Support DSWD Caraga and LGUs in tracking home-based IDPs and those families who are not able to return to their habitual residences due to the declaration of the No-Build-Zone policy to ensure their access to humanitarian assistance from Government and humanitarian actors.

HOUSING, LAND AND PROPERTY

Ensure that deprivation of land, homes and other property of individuals as a result or cause of displacement must be properly monitored and addressed

ISSUES

1. The implementation of the government's No-Build Zone (NBZ) policy that commenced with the installation of NBZ signages by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in the coastal areas of Siargao Island is adding to the anxieties of the affected population. The imposition of such policy, without due process provided by existing laws, may constitute forced eviction where restrictions or accompanying relocations render individuals with no choice but to leave their lands or properties.

2. In Burgos Municipality in Siargao, the LGU have already started the strict implementation of the said policy and have disallowed the rebuilding of houses and return of IDPs in the affected areas. According to reports, there is already an approved plan for the relocation site in Brgy. Patag in Burgos but the details and specific date of the relocation has not been communicated to the affected families yet.
3. Some of the communities in Siargao Island (i.e., Brgy. Dayaohay) are against the NBZ policy due to concerns on livelihoods in case they are relocated. They also expressed that they have not received full information about the policy and consultations are yet to be conducted by the DENR.
4. In Dapa Municipality in Siargao, some of the affected families living within the identified NBZ were made to sign a waiver for building temporary housing in their areas.
5. Meanwhile, there are also LGUs that have deferred implementation of the said policy due to the lack of clear guidelines and in consideration of the situation of the affected families. Some of these LGUs are calling for support from the humanitarian agencies to provide flexible loan arrangements to help the affected families rebuild their homes. In Surigao City, the LGU is considering the request of the affected residents who are willing to relocate but wanted to keep their houses along the coastal area.
6. There are also reports of families residing within the NBZ areas who were allegedly excluded from shelter assistance, i.e. in Sta. Monica Municipality in Surigao del Norte. This issue has also impacted the implementation of the conditional support program of some LGUs such as the Emergency Shelter Assistance (ESA) program which requires IDPs to have a house or a piece of land for them to qualify as beneficiaries. This limitation had already resulted to exclusion of some of the displaced families.
7. The LGUs are having difficulties in finding a suitable location for relocation of the affected population due to lack of available lands. Based on initial consultations with LGUs, there are lands that they could use but these lands are expensive (i.e. in General Luna, Siargao). Further, some locations identified as potential sites had been assessed as inconducive or unsafe for relocation. According to data shared by DSWD Caraga, the Task Force Build Back Better had identified 1,966,070 sq.m. of potential land in Siargao Island for relocation of families which will potentially be affected by the No-Build Zone policy.

RESPONSES

1. Relocation of some 123 families in Surigao City have started particularly in Barangay Cagniog. The construction of relocation shelters is being manned by 50 representatives from the first batch of 50 families who undergo trainings for carpentry and masonry with TESDA. These trained individuals are also compensated by the LGU.
2. In Dapa Municipality in Siargao, around 3,500 households coming from three barangays in Dapa have been identified for relocation. Accordingly, consultations about their relocation have already been conducted. Some of the affected families living within the identified NBZ were made to sign a waiver for building temporary housing in their areas. Meanwhile, the DENR have reportedly identified a temporary relocation site for the affected families and site development planning following the criteria of the DENR is set to be conducted. However, according to the MDRRMO, the identified site is a protected area and may not be suitable for relocation, thus further delays in the implementation of the relocation is expected.
3. In Burgos, the MLGU have already identified an available 1.5 has. for the relocation of around 111 families. Accordingly, the NHA will download Php10,000,000.00 for the construction of housing units.

NEEDS / GAPS

1. For short-term support, provide temporary shelter support to severely affected families. For long-term support, commence shelter-related and land use planning to facilitate rebuilding of damaged houses and infrastructures and timely relocation of those affected by No-Build Zone policy.
2. Support in advocating for the rights of the affected population especially those who are currently living within the proposed NBZ in any local inter-agency platform to ensure non-discrimination and provision of equitable emergency assistance, and due process during relocation
3. Conduct meaningful consultations and information campaign towards the affected communities about the risks faced in unsafe zones, their rights, and alternative options to ensure their dignified and safe return or relocation

4. Ensure availability of basic services, particularly access to electricity and clean potable water, in the relocation sites as well as livelihoods opportunities, preferably in the same line of livelihoods they were engaged in before, to ensure sustainable income and rebuilding of the community.

ACCESS TO HEALTH	<i>Ensure that IDPs have access to basic health care and facilities during displacement</i>
ISSUES	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Malnutrition is likely to occur in badly hit areas where families are still struggling to recover economically and financially resulting in the food insecurity and food shortage impacting health and nutrition status of children. 	
RESPONSES	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Department of Health Caraga and local counterpart at the LGU level continuously provide health services in different municipalities in Surigao Del Norte and Dinagat Island provinces. b. The Rural Health Units of Cagdianao, Libjo and San Jose in Dinagat, together with ACCORD, conducted series of mobile medical missions to a total of 17 barangays for the three municipalities. The activity was supported by the European Union Humanitarian Aid. c. The District Nutrition Program Officer of PSWDO Surigao del Norte, in partnership with UNICEF, is currently conducting health assessment to the selected settlers in the localities of Siargao Island to determine the health situation of the target beneficiaries who fall under the Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) categories to provide them the needed health assistance and avoid further deterioration of their health. 	
NEEDS / GAPS	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure health services to affected population in hard-to-reach Island barangays. They have less access compared to those in the mainland. These barangays are often difficult to access because of the weather condition hampering the delivery of aid and services. Most of them can only be reached using a motorized pump boat. 	

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	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of disaggregated data to assess the extent of the aftermath to persons with specific needs 2. Many persons with specific needs do not have meaningful access to information and humanitarian assistance. There are a lot of them who are not aware of the schedules and the location of aid leaving those elderly, and persons with reduced mobility not able to get assistance. 	
RESPONSES	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In Surigao del Norte, including Siargao Island, households with person with disability and/or senior citizen received shelter assistance comprising tarpaulins and cash for shelter repair and immediate needs from Community and Family Services International. 	
NEEDS / GAPS	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include the collection of disaggregated data in any assessment – related undertakings to be done 2. Integrate the needs of persons with specific needs in humanitarian and recovery response. 3. Response to ensure non-discrimination and provision of equitable emergency assistance (i.e., emergency shelter kits, food, WASH, protection) to IDPs including those that are currently within the proposed NBZ and temporary shelters/evacuation sites, in line with the leaving no one behind principle 	

4. Cross-checking of beneficiary lists should take place to address both inclusion and concerns around exclusion of eligible beneficiaries – particularly vulnerable and marginalized sectors

CHILD PROTECTION AND PROTECTION AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- *Ensure the safeguarding of displaced children from violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect*
- *IDPs are protection against violence on the basis of their gender or sex including acts that inflict physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion and other arbitrary deprivation of liberty.*

ISSUES

- Due to the limited support services available for children and their caregivers, there is an increased risk for sexual abuse and exploitation. For those who are still staying in evacuation centers, this situation is further compounded by the lack of electricity, proper lighting of the sanitation facilities, and lack of partition.
- There are very limited women and child-friendly spaces available in the evacuation sites to address psychosocial and mental health concerns of the IDPs.
- In Dinagat Island, all the three district hospitals are severely damaged hindering the effective delivery of safe and confidential life-saving services to gender-based violence (GBV) victims-survivors.
- According to reports, there are pre-existing cases of human trafficking such as alleged prostitution of women and young girls in Surigao del Norte. Following the typhoon, the province ranks number two in GBV cases in the region. Due to the lack of livelihood opportunities post disaster, women and adolescent girls are left with few real options which puts them at heightened risk for dangerous or potentially exploitative work.
- Technical capacity to handle and assist GBV, CICAL and other related cases is very limited and a constant challenge. Municipal Social Workers are also short-handed as they are loaded in case management and other related concerns in the municipality.
- Limited to no available safe area to help ensure safety of the survivor/victim while case is under process or investigation. Safe area for conduct of investigation and interviews involving the victim and Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) is also a challenge.

RESPONSES

- With support from the United Nations CERF, CFSI and UNICEF established Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in one city and eight municipalities in the CARAGA Region. 100 community-based Mobile Youth Animators volunteer help carry out structured activities for children in CFS tents and in their own communities. To date, CFSI has provided psychosocial support to over 4,700 children and adolescents adversely affected by Super-typhoon Odette.
- CFSI and the Filipino Student Council of New South Wales provided Learner's Kit to select students in Surigao City. The kits were distributed in time for the resumption of classes, which temporarily stopped due to the devastating impact of Odette.
- Since January this year, DSWD has been leading a series of monitoring and psychosocial activities in Surigao City, Surigao Del Norte, Dinagat and Siargao Islands.

NEEDS / GAPS

- Consider prioritizing continuity of preventive health care program to ensure pregnant and infants are receiving adequate health support (e.g. infants immunization, prenatal check-ups).
- Awareness-raising sessions for women and girls, men and boys in communities by Women-Friendly Space facilitators on GBV risk mitigation and access to services (face to face and radio based)
- Sustain the Child Friendly spaces and referral pathways for CP and GBV cases.
- Safe space/shelter to help ensure safety of the survivor/victim while case is under process or investigation.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Internally Displaced Persons

Emergency Operations Center, Surigao City

Emergency Operations Center, Dinagat Island

Emergency Operations Center, Surigao Del Norte

Emergency Operations Center, Regional Disaster Risks Reduction Management Council (RDRRMC) - Caraga

Emergency Operations Center, DSWD Caraga

Local Government Units in Siargao and Dinagat Island

UNHCR Project Partners

- Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)
- Community and Family Services International (CFSI)
- Assistance and Cooperation for Community Resilience and Development, Inc. (ACCORD)
- Tiyakap Kalilintad, Inc. (TKI)
- Integrated Resource Development for Tri-People (IRDT)
- Commission on Human Rights (CHR)



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.