



Municipal Protection Profiles conducted in Lanao del Sur

Sultan Dimalundong





Municipality of Sultan Dumalondong

Province of Lanao del Norte | Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)

Overview

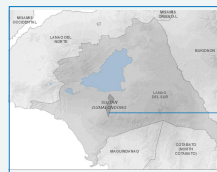
Risk rating: High

Quick facts

The Municipality of Sultan Dumalondong is an inland province of Lanao del Sur. The municipality has a land area of 275.80 square kilometers or 106.49 square miles which constitute 2.04% of Lanao del Sur's total area. Its population as determined by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) 2015 Census was 11,298. This represented 1.08% of the total population of Lanao del Sur province or 0.30% of the overall population of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. Based on these figures, the population density is computed at 41 inhabitants per square kilometer or 106 inhabitants per square mile.

Sultan Dumalondong is a municipality that was created by the virtue of Muslim Mindanao Autonomy Act No. 36, enacted by the Regional Legislative Assembly of the now-defunct Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) on 19 June 1995. The municipality is composed of seven barangays formed from areas that previously belonged to the neighboring municipalities of Butig, Lumbatan, and Lumbayanague.

Combining age groups, those aged 14 and below, consisting of the young dependent population, make up an aggregate of 47.07% (5,318). Those aged 15 up to 64, roughly, the economically active population and actual



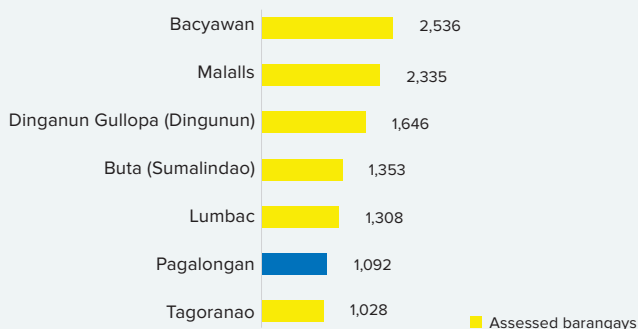
Sultan Dumalondong



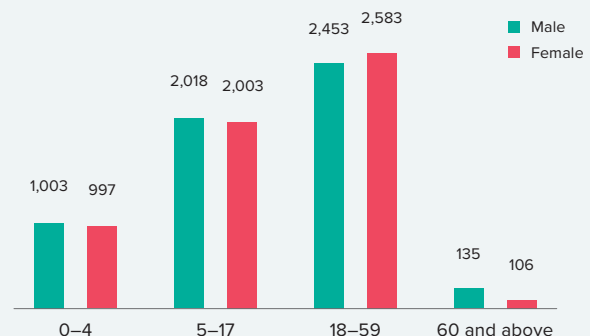
or potential members of the workforce, constitute a total of 51.89% (5,863). Finally, the old dependent population consisting of those aged 65 and over, total 1.04% (117) in all. The computed Age Dependency Ratios mean that among the population of Sultan Dumalondong, there are 91 youth dependents to every 100 of the working-age population; there are 2 aged/senior citizens to every 100 of the working population; and overall, there are 93 dependents (young and old-age) to every 100 of the working population. The median age of 17 indicates that half of the entire population of Sultan Dumalondong are aged less than 17 and the other half are over the age of 17. (Source: www.philatlas.com)

Population	Families	Income Class	Land Area	Barangays	Climate type	Languages Spoken
11,293	2,259	6th Class	275.80_{sq.km.} 7		Tropical	Maranao

Population¹ by barangay



Population¹ by age breakdown and sex



¹ 2015 Census of Population, Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)

Assessed Barangays

The table below shows the population of barangays in Sultan Dumalondong that were assessed for the MPP.

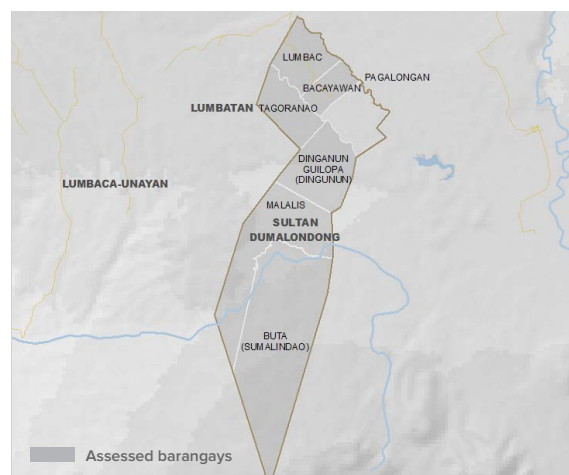
Barangay	No. of HH	No. of Families	No. of People	No. of Male	No. of Female	No. of Children	No. of Adults	No. of Elders
Bacayawan	360	580	2,000	900	1,100	880	950	170
Buta (Sumalindao)	108	271	1,353	541	812	474	608	271
Dinganun Guilopa (Dingunun)	570	145	2,064	620	1,444	394	1,570	100
Lumbac	140	350	3,500	1,050	2,450	1,530	1,800	170
Malalis	259	778	1,946	778	1,168	876	778	292
Tagoranao	156	390	1,950	780	1,170	975	682	293
TOTAL	1,593	2,514	12,813	4,669	8,144	5,129	6,388	1,296

Protection Profile Summary

The protection risk in the municipality is HIGH. Sultan Dumalondong had undergone various displacement due to armed conflict and generalized violence. The 2000 All-Out-War against the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) caused displacement to two barangays. At the same time, some barangays in the municipality hosted IDPs from the province of Maguindanao due to the All-Out-War. In 2016, the armed encounter between the Philippine military and alleged ISIS-inspired group (locally known as Maute Group) escalated in the municipality, particularly in Barangay Dinganen Guilopa, Malalis, and Somalindaw. Despite that, there are residents of Butig who also took refuge in other barangays of Sultan Dumalondong. In 2017 when Marawi was under siege by the alleged ISIS-inspired group, the municipality again hosted IDPs from Marawi.

There are also cases of clan feud (locally called “rido”) that also forced some residents to flee their homes between 2000 and 2002. One barangay has been displaced five times since 2000. In 2018, a renewed armed conflict between the armed forces of the Philippines and the allegedly ISIS-inspired group in the boundary barangays of Sultan Dumalondong, Lumbaca Unayan, and Marogong.

The Local Government of Sultan Dumalondong is keen on providing social protection programs for their constituents, albeit financial struggle limits the implementation of protective services for all. However, there are already established facilities and services such as the Rural Health Unit (RHU), Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT)



in all barangays, improvement of road networks and, recently the installation of the Local Registry Office. Local government is also able to roll out protection activities such as raising drug awareness and active disaster response by the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Office (MDRRMO).

The LGU of Sultan Dumalondong is facing difficulties to respond during cases of displacement due to the need to build capacity for emergencies, especially for armed conflict and generalized crime and violence.

Protection analysis data

Displacement

Nature of Violations and Threats

Below are the displacement incidents that took place at the municipality:

DISPLACEMENT TO THE MUNICIPALITY



Year	Nature of Displacement	Place of Origin
2000	Armed conflict, all-out-war declaration. 7 reported incidents of displacement from Maguindanao to Sultan Dumalondong	300+ families from the Province of Maguindanao
2016	Firefight between the AFP and ISIS-inspired group in Butig	200+ families were reported displaced from Butig to Sultan Dumalondong.
2017	Marawi Siege	476 families were displaced to Sultan Dumalondong from Marawi City.

DISPLACEMENT FROM THE MUNICIPALITY



Year	Nature of Displacement	Place of Origin
2000	Armed conflict, all-out-war declaration. Barangay Tagoranao and Bacayawan were affected	Barangay Tagoranao and Bacayawan were displaced from the municipality.
2000	Family feud (rido)	Barangay Malalis, Sultan Dumalondong experiences series of displacement.
2002	Family feud (rido)	Barangay Dinganun Guilupa, Sultan Dumalondong
2016	Firefight between the AFP and ISIS-inspired group in Butig	Brgy. Dinganin Guilopa, Brgy. Malalis and Brgy. Sumalindaw
2018	Military operation against ISIS-inspired group	Barangay Sumalindao and Malalis, Sultan Dumalondong where all of the families were displaced. During the incident, there were civilians caught in crossfire, including two children

Impact and Effects of Violations

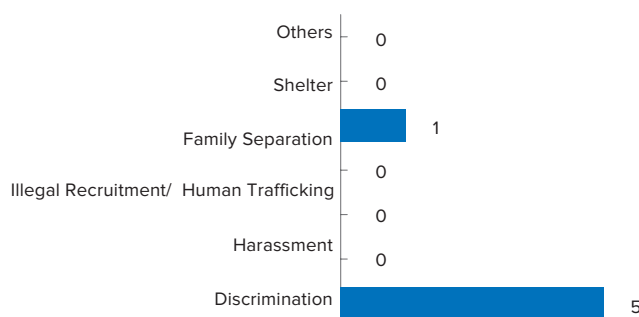
During displacement, displaced families and the host community experienced numerous difficulties. The most common problem faced was limited access to assistance wherein both host and IDP families experienced food shortages caused by limited livelihood activities. As the displaced population grew, host communities experienced increased expenditures. Financial capacity is too low to address the basic needs of families. Other than that, access to basic services is also a challenge, as the population in Sultan Dumalondong has difficulties accessing water and latrines.

Impact and Effects of Violations

The numerous experiences of armed conflict, and crime, and violence such as rido affected many families psychosocially. Both host and displaced families accepted the fact that during displacement, they have their relatives and leaders (e.g. barangay officials) to rely on.

Despite challenges faced by the community during displacement, they were able to manage difficulties by raising their concerns to the BLGU and slowly being addressed with the help of the LGU and service providers such as international or local Non-Government Organizations (NGOs). Host communities

Problems encountered during displacement





Note: Values represent the number of assessed barangays responding as applicable.

ensure that the displaced families are involved in community gatherings and meetings to relieve stress due to displacement. Sultan Dumalondong treats the IDPs with respect and observes the good qualities of extended family support.


On rido cases, communities are observing and practicing customary laws or Igma and Taritib in local terms. Community leaders such as traditional and religious leaders were involved in negotiating rido. However, "panginsalaan" (blood money) is a strong factor to resolve conflict over Shari'ah court or any lawful proceedings.

Recommendations


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Establish a network linkage with local security actors to enhance the monitoring of possible threats of displacement and violation.
- 


Strengthen conflict resolution mechanisms (rido mediation and negotiation, ensure the involvement of traditional, religious leaders and the participation of state actors)


 - Lobby a committee for the arbitration of rido.
- 

Identify evacuation centers and install a system of evacuation

 - With enough protection facilities such as access to water and latrines, safety measures with personnel.
 - Establish Early Warning and Early Recovery (EWER) mechanism
- 

Strengthen RA10121 implementation

 - Capacitate BLGU on response and preparedness including the participation of the community members
- 

Strengthen the capacities of personnel in BDRRMC, VAWC desk, and BCPC through trainings (Training on Trainers) in complying with their mandates
- 

Provision of Barangay Health Station (BHS) in every barangay.

Protection of women and children

Nature of Violations and Threats

The September 2018 firefight between the AFP and the ISIS-inspired group in Barangay Malalis and Sumalindao had displaced 90 percent of the population within the municipality. There were four reported civilians caught in the crossfire and two of those civilians were minor.

At the time of profiling, there were unreported minor cases of domestic violence to the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) and to the BLGU. Cases were not reported as Meranao culture resolves issues in accordance with the Igma and Taritib of Meranao. This process is also to keep the dignity and pride of both parties together with that of their respective families.

During cases of displacement, access to health was one of the identified concerns. Only Barangay Lumbac has the RHU to cater the population of Sultan Dumalondong. Said RHU in Lumbac is lacking health facilities. With this situation, communities with health concerns are brought to the neighboring municipalities, either in the Municipality of Lumbatan and/or Tamparan. Some displaced families and/or communities with health problems but lacking financial capacity prefer to endure and wait for recovery at home.

Generally, women and children feel safe in the municipality and feel that they can access protective services. There are also avenues through which they can report their issues or concerns.

Impact and Effects of Violations

Displacement as a result of generalized violence generated fears among the community and displaced population, which further results in children being stopped from schooling. Women are psychologically affected. They feel anxious and unsafe with the new environment. They have changed their usual routine and forced themselves to work to support and help their families.

There were children and women who felt traumatized by the displacement brought by either armed conflict or “rido”. The limited livelihood opportunities in the barangay cause family separation. In Barangay Bacayawan and Tagoranao, parents had to leave their children to seek livelihood from other areas.

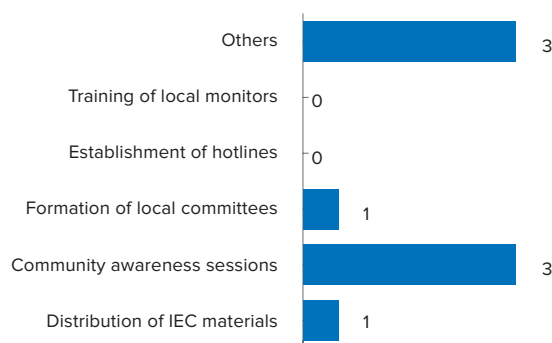
Coping Mechanism of Affected Population

The committee on peace and order was conceived to be the structure that addresses issues and concerns related to women and children in the barangays. Igma and Taritib are also used to protect women and children.

In addition, assessed barangays affirmed knowledge of their rights and could exercise those in every aspect. Parents are also aware of the rights of their children with the knowledge acquired from Gender and Development (GAD) and Gender Based-Violence (GBV) orientations. Participants even gave an example on how to refer their concern related to the protection of women and children which manifests resiliency. Giving lavish value to close family ties also provides protection. However, barangay officials admit to having a low capacity in supplementing protection mechanisms to protect their constituents.

Protective Capability and Compliance

What measures are in place to prevent the abuse of women and children?



Note: Values represent the number of assessed barangays responding as applicable.

Recommendations



Strengthening and enhancing the local capacities of the MLGU/BLGU in providing protection to children and women.

- Strengthening existing protection services (VAWC Desk, BDRRMO, BCPC)
- Include the community members in capacity building activities related to the protection of women and children.
- Capacity building must be supplemented with facilities (e.g. identifying Child Friendly Spaces and Women Friendly Spaces during emergencies) to prevent and or protect vulnerable groups from further harm and having spaces for emotional recovery.



Provision of health facilities with personnel to all barangays.

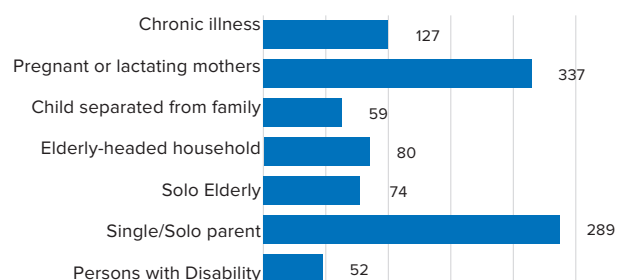


Strengthen BPAT stations and personnel

Persons with specific needs

Nature of Violations and Threats

Number of individuals in the community who belong to the following vulnerable groups



Note: Values represent the combined no. of cases reported in the assessed barangays.

Coping Mechanism of Affected Population

The Meranao nature of giving lavish value to kinship was one of the instruments to cope with the effects of displacement. Also, the utmost respect given to women is greatly valued amongst Meranao society. The emphatic gesture for sick and needy families or relatives and the hospitality is an astounding practice of the Meranao, especially during difficult times. Host families, especially relatives of the IDPs, provide financial support and share resources.





Women are also invited to community gatherings and other spaces for them to be heard and participate in decision-making. Host barangays prioritize the displaced families especially those who are vulnerable and or in great need. Islamic seminars were also conducted in every barangay as a way of strengthening the Islamic faith and a way for women to cope with stress.

Impact and Effects of Violations

The following are most of the specific needs of PWSNs in Sultan Dumalondong.

Vulnerable groups	Specific needs
Persons with Disabilities	Medical and livelihood assistance
Single/Solo Parents	Assistive devices for elderlies
Elderly-headed household	Financial assistance and or start-up capital to support their family
Separated child	Child fund for education
Pregnant or lactating	Medical and livelihood assistance
Chronic illness	Assistive devices for elderlies
Specific needs during displacement	
Persons with Disabilities	Medical assistance Food items/support Assistive devices
Single/Solo Parents	Alternative livelihood or source of income Or financial support
Elderly-headed household	Livelihood and financial support
Separated child	Educational Support
Pregnant or lactating	Medical assistance Financial Support And access to medical assistance and medical facilities.
Chronic illness	Medical Support

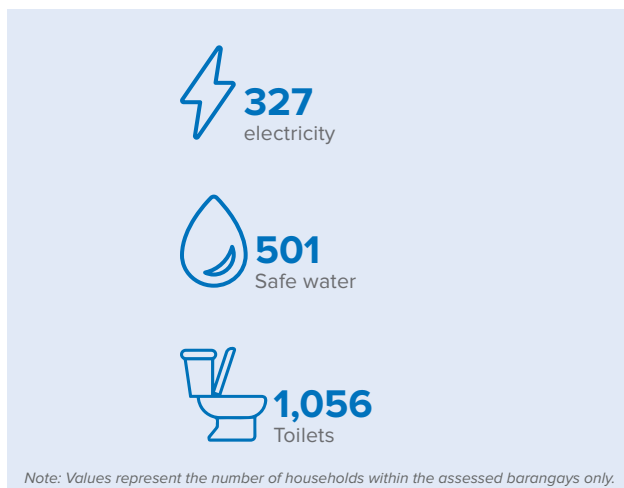
Recommendations

-  Track and/or update the list of PWSNs and their protection needs.
-  Provision of health facilities and personnel to all barangays.
 - BLGU to ensure persons with urgent medical needs are referred and or addressed.
-  Provision of livelihood activities for PWSN and their families for them to build their own confidence and discover their capacity to feel their belongingness as a part of the community.
-  Ensure involvement of PWSN in consultation related to programs of LGU.
 - Ensure PWSN has full information of protection an assistance that are entitled to them.

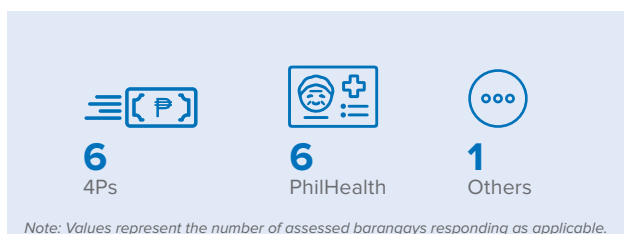
Basic social services

Nature of Violations and Threats



What is the estimated number of households without the following services:



Which government programs are accessible by the community?



Recommendations

-  Expand the scope on infrastructure projects such as public latrines and water systems.
-  Prioritize people-centered programs/projects.

-  Consult community on their basic needs to ensure relevance of projects.
-  Conduct evaluations on government programs/projects implemented.
-  Enhance capacity of farmers on sustainable agriculture.
-  Lobby for the improvement of electric power.
-  Enhance the capacity of farmers and communities on farming practices.

Safety and security

Nature of Violations and Threats

Due to martial law in Mindanao that was still in effect at the time of profiling, the state military actor serves as security for the community. As such, BPAT personnel is not patrolling. Secondly, BPAT has no gear or equipment to engage with life-threatening incidents such as rido, which leads to increased conflict in Sultan Dimalondong. The electricity supply is unstable and there are no streetlights, leading to places with security risks.

Impact and Effects of Violations

Communities in Sultan Dimalondong still feel insecure without the regular presence of security personnel, especially at night. Firefight causes anxiety in the community. 17% of the respondents say, displacement due to Rido results in restriction of movement, especially to families involved in the *rido*. Others were forced to leave their place of origin permanently to avoid the further impact of conflict such as potential loss of lives among family members. Firefight psychosocially impacted women and children as they fear of losing family members.

Coping Mechanism of Affected Population

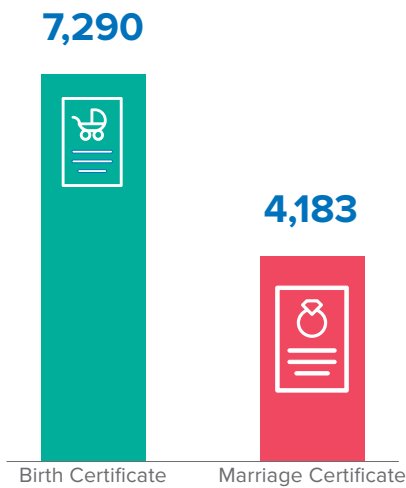
Community members had been observant of the curfew hours being implemented by the Local Government Unit (LGU) in times of armed conflict, generalized violence, and of rido (family feud) within the municipality or neighboring areas. Resident communities especially elderlies and religious leaders provided information with regard to safety and security. The community used portable two-way radios and listen to news events to monitor the threat of conflict.

Recommendations


-  Strengthen the capacity of BPAT forces and provision of facilities and equipment to respond with conflict and threats of violation.
-  Develop an Early Warning and Early Response mechanism to be used during signs of conflict
-  Continue the capacity building related to safety and security
 - Involve community members at the training and planning
 - Planning should include an evacuation mechanism
-  Maintain checkpoints from security sectors (PNP and AFP) during the signs of conflict.

Documentation

What is the estimated number of individuals in the assessed barangays without:

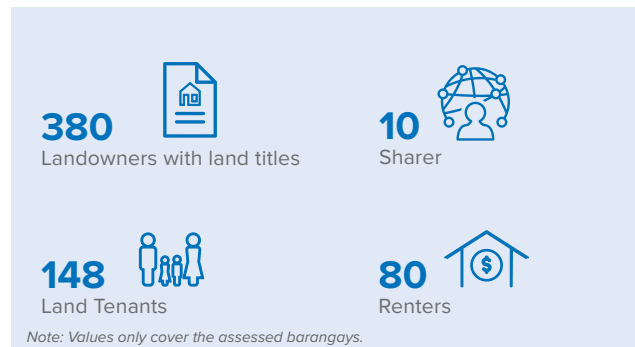


Recommendations

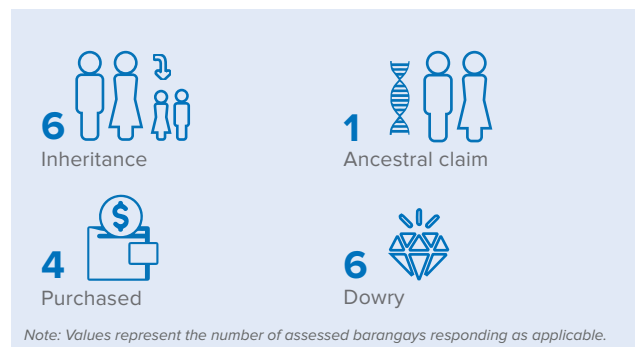
-  Conduct community-awareness activities on the importance of birth registration and civil documentation
-  Continue the free birth registration program
-  BLGU to require their constituents to avail birth registration after giving birth

Housing, Land and Property (HLP)

HLP Figures



How were the lands/ properties acquired?



Recommendations

-  Assist property owners in processing and transferring their lands to their name.
-  Encourage parties in land disputes to submit to traditional dispute resolution mechanisms and respect their decision for the formed mechanism.
-  Strengthen the capacity of traditional leaders to resolve conflict around land issues.
-  Involvement of BLGU to resolve conflict must be included.

Information

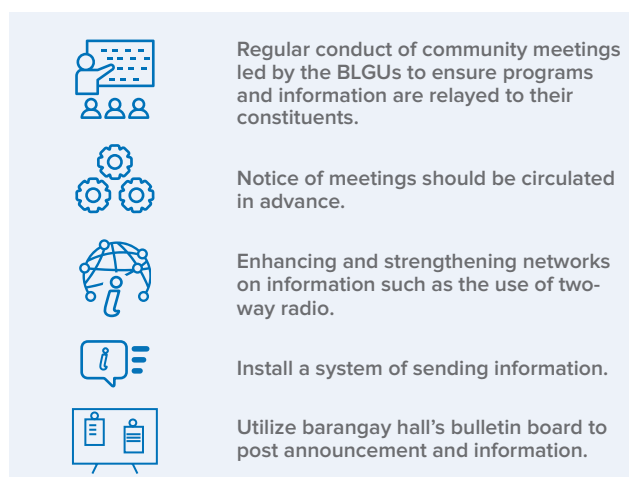
What are the types of protection information the community received?



Coping Mechanism of Affected Population

Most of the community members have access to electricity and mobile communication to share information. However, the communities have a bad connection. As an alternative, they use two-way radio and have an organized radio network. Most of the information relayed was related to safety and security, barangay events, and programs or activities from the government and related agencies.

Recommendations



Peace Process

Recommendations



SOURCES / REFERENCES:

Focus Group Discussions (FGD)

Key Informant Interviews (KII)

Secondary Data Review



Water brings life to Hasmin and her daughter Caramina. The community in Brgy. Bacawayan, Marantao hosts internally displaced families from Marawi City since the siege in May 2017. They now have a sustainable source of water for sustenance and basic hygiene. © UNHCR/Lyka Gonzalez