



Municipal Protection Profile conducted in Maguindanao

General Salipada K. Pendatun





Municipality of General Salipada K. Pendatun

Province of Maguindanao | Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)

Overview

Risk rating: High ■■■■

Quick facts

General Salipada K. Pendatun (GSKP) is a 4th class municipality in the province of Maguindanao. It is politically subdivided into 19 barangays: Badak, Bulod, Kaladuran, Kulasi, Lao-Lao, Lasangan, Lower Idtig, Lumabao, Makainis, Midconding, Midpandan, Panosolen, Pidtiguian, Quipolot, Ramcor, Sadangen, Sumakubay, Tonggol and Upper Lasangan.

It is located along the Ligawasan Marsh. It is surrounded by the marsh to the east, Paglat to the south-east, Sultan sa Barangis to the west and Pagalungan to the north.

The municipality has a total land area of 189.37 square kilometers or 73.12 square miles which constitutes 1.95 percent of Maguindanao's total area. Its population as determined by the 2015 Census was 28,103. This represented 2.39 percent of the total population of Maguindanao province, or 0.74 percent of the overall population of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). Based on these figures, the population density is computed at 148 inhabitants per square kilometer or 384 inhabitants per square mile.

According to the 2015 Census, the age group with the highest population in General Salipada K. Pendatun is 10 to 14, with 4,489 individuals. The age group with the lowest population is 75 to 79 with 55 individuals.



Combining age groups together, those aged 14 and below make up an aggregate of 44 percent (12,364 people). Those aged 15 to 64, roughly the economically active population and actual or potential members of the work force, constitute a total of 53.31 percent (15,264 people). Finally, the old dependent population, those aged 65 and over, total 1.69 percent (475 people) in all.

According to the Bureau of Local Government Finance, the annual regular revenue of General Salipada K. Pendatun for the fiscal year 2016 was ₱78,967,015.59.

The municipality is an agricultural area. The major products of GSKP include rice, corn, coconut, banana, vegetables, palm oil, poultry, livestock and fish.



Population

28,103



Families

5,621



Income Class

4th Class



Land Area

189.37 sq.km.



Barangays

19



Climate type

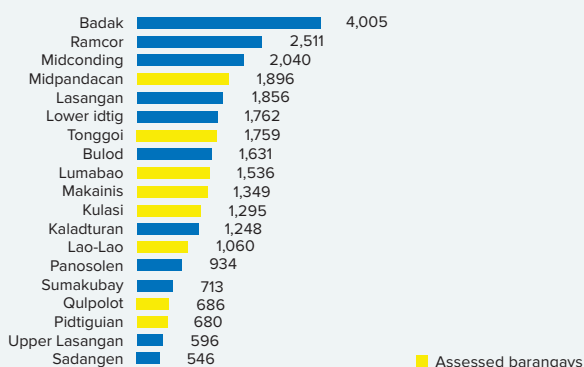
Tropical



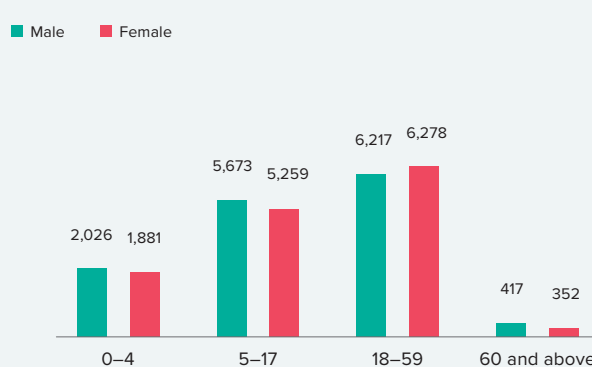
Languages spoken

Maguindanao, Tagalog

Population¹ by barangay



Population¹ by sex and age group



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

Assessed barangays

The table below shows the population of barangays in GSKP 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
Kulasi	350	388	1,942	952	990	835	997	110
Lao-Lao	309	316	1,826	895	931	785	937	104
Lumabao	512	500	1,536	753	783	661	787	88
Makainis	200	270	1,349	661	688	580	692	77
Midpandacan	370	300	2,850	1,396	1,454	1,225	1,462	163
Pidtiguian	98	323	1,616	792	824	695	829	92
Quipolot	131	151	686	336	350	294	353	39
Tonggol	520	500	2,550	1,249	1,301	1,096	1,309	145
TOTAL	2,490	2,748	14,355	7,034	7,321	6,171	7,366	818

Protection Profile Summary

The eight communities (Lao-Lao, Makainis, Midpandacan, Lumabao, Quipolot, Pidtiguian, Kulasi, and Tonggol) profiled in the municipality of General Salipada K. Pendatun (GSKP) are considered vulnerable areas with high protection risks. This is primarily due to the armed conflicts brought about by the continuing presence of armed groups in the nearby areas adjacent to the municipal borders.

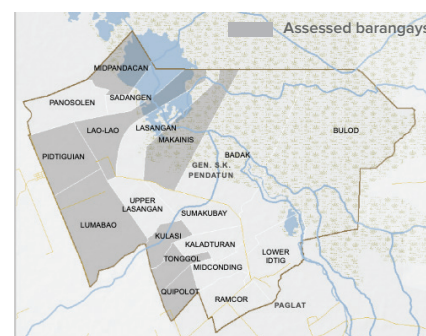
Local family feuds due to land disputes and political rivalries are also contributing to the threats to local population. Natural hazards (e.g., floods and drought) in the profiled communities also cause displacements.

Weak protection mechanisms such as the Barangay Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) Desk, Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC) and Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (BDRRMC) are a prevailing challenge. These mechanisms become less effective in protecting affected families due to lack of manpower and resources.

The limited access of basic social services such as electricity, potable water systems and sanitation facilities is also common in the communities.

The ongoing peace process between government of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) was viewed positively in the communities. Communities also believed that the new BARMM government will bring sustainable peace and development in the region.

Both the community members and the duty bearers from the eight barangays perceived the capacity of the local authorities or duty bearers as “good” in responding to the needs and protection of the right of IDPs. Communities and duty bearers believed that the local authorities are doing their best, duties and responsibilities to be able to respond to the needs and protection of the IDPs and or vulnerable populations in the communities during displacements.



Communities and local authorities expressed that there is still a need to improve the capacity of duty bearers in order to better respond to the needs and protect the rights of IDPs. There is a need to have more concrete programs and plans for IDPs. Proper utilization and additional financial resource to implement programs and services for IDPs are also needed. There is a need to empower duty bearers and provide skills on resource mobilization.

All except one barangay disclosed that the Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (BDRRMC), Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) Desk, and Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC) are functional in their communities. Three of the eight barangays have an existing and functional Barangay Human Rights Action Center (BHRAC).

Promotion of peace activities and the local peace initiative is encouraged to prevent violent conflict in the municipality.

Enhancing capacities of protection mechanisms and BDRRMC will strengthen the operations and performance of the protection mechanisms in the community to be able to provide better protection services to the affected populations. Involving the communities actively as partners in all these undertakings will help sustain the activities.

Protection analysis

A total of 2,748 families (14,355 people) with 2,490 households are currently living in the eight barangays which are included in the protection profiling. Male population constitutes 49 percent while female population is 51 percent. Population by age group shows that 51 percent are adults, 43 percent are children, and 6 percent are elderly.

The data and information were generated through clustered focus group discussion and interviews. A total of 129 participants attended the FGDs composed of 31 community leaders, 52 men, 29 women, 6 elderly people and 3 children from the eight barangays including barangay Lao-Lao, Makainis, Midpandakan, Lumabao, Quipolot, Pidtiguian, Kulasi, and Tonggol.

Displacement

Nature of Violations and Threats

The information gathered from the eight respondent communities shows that they have experienced displacements primarily due to armed conflicts between the government security forces and lawless elements or non-state armed actors. There were also accounts of conflicts due to crimes, violence and those perpetrated by and between armed civilians due to land disputes and political rivalries.

Communities disclosed that Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighter (BIFF) are present in the communities and nearby communities.

Natural disasters were also said to have hit the communities causing displacements of families.

The recurring conflicts threaten the community and increase vulnerabilities of the affected populations. An estimated total of 1,425 families (approximately, 12,739 individuals) from the seven communities have been displaced from approximately less than 30 days to 60 days length of stay either in the evacuation centers or to their relatives within their communities.

At present, seven of the eight communities -- namely Lao-Lao, Makainis, Midpandakan, Lumabao, Quipolot, Kulasi and Tonggol -- have been hosting Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

During conflicts and displacement, communities shared that the affected populations are forced to flee to nearby or safer places both within and outside of their respective communities, within and outside the municipality, or to their relatives residing whether within or outside the community or municipality.

Respondent communities informed that IDPs have encountered problems in accessing assistance during displacement. Eight respondent barangays shared that they have experienced difficulty accessing assistance and family separation while two barangays shared about the problems on shelter while one community disclosed having experienced family separation.

Communities confirmed that there are limited supplies of food, potable water as well as sanitation and hygiene, medicine, shelter and alternative livelihood. Communities expressed that local authorities were responsible enough to perform their duties, however there is inadequate assistance to the affected populations.

Impact and Effects of Violations

Affected families expressed that they are psychologically, emotionally and physically affected by the displacements. The situation caused them stress, financial burden, disruption of their livelihood activities and children's school activities are disturbed and to some extent, they lose their interest to go back to school. With scarcity of food and the need to support family needs, families often cope by selling their animals.

Women, children, older persons, and persons with special needs (PWSN) are the most vulnerable sectors and have been affected in many different ways. They noted the congestion in the evacuation centers even at the homebased and of the host communities. Children are being exposed to the environment of conflicts.






Coping Mechanisms of Affected Population

Eight communities activated the BPATs to strengthen their protection mechanisms such as BCPC, VAWC desk, BDRRMC and BHRAC in the barangay.

The host communities, despite limitations, are willing to accept those displaced from other communities. They share their spaces and resources with the displaced populations in their communities. It is a great relief for the affected families.

Recommendations

For better protection of IDP rights and enhance mechanisms in responding and providing assistance to affected populations and the communities, in general, the following actions are recommended.

	Strengthen the protection mechanisms of the communities such as BDRRMC, VAWC Desk, BCPC, and BHRAC through capacity building and budget allocation.
	Local authorities should have a disaster response and preparedness plan that reflects the resources requirements and evacuation plan if displacement happened in their respective barangay (this includes establishment or assignment of evacuation centers).
	Ensure that local authorities have updated barangay profiles reflecting the detailed physical, social and demographic data to facilitate emergency program design and planning.
	Train or orient both the community and local officials on protection and IDP rights with emphasis on United Nations guiding principles on internal displacement to facilitate awareness and empowerment among IDPs.
	Strengthen the relationship of BDRRMC with MDRRMC to ensure complementary support in terms of resources and capacity in responding the needs and protection of the rights of IDPs.

Protection of women and children

Nature of Violations and Threats

All eight respondent barangays disclosed that women and children feel safe and secured in the communities. This sense of security among women and children is due to awareness and internal communication among people about risks, the local authorities are working to protect women and children, regular monitoring activities of the BPAT, which is said to be working 24 hours.

However, communities admitted that there are undisclosed number of cases of domestic violence against women and women trafficking.

Five barangays shared that women have access to security services (Makainis, Lumabao, Quipolot, Pidtiguian and Tonggol) while barangays Lao-Lao and Midpandakan said that they were not aware of women access to security services in their barangays.

The communities further revealed that there are women's groups and local associations, which are actively involved in community activities.

All eight respondent barangays shared that women are aware of the Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) Law. Communities also revealed that women are aware of their rights and were able to exercise these rights. Six out of eight communities disclosed that parents and children are aware of their rights while five barangays revealed they are able to exercise these rights.

Coping Mechanisms of Affected Population

There are several undertakings on the part of the local authorities to help the survivors cope with their difficult situations and or protect vulnerable sectors from further harm or violence.

Communities disclosed that local authorities are able to provide immediate response to the issues and concerns of women and children in terms of their protection.

The establishment of protection mechanisms such as the VAWC Desk and BCPC is a remarkable strategy in protecting the rights of women and children. The local authorities and these protection structures in the communities are conducting awareness raising sessions on rights and protection of women and children.

There are also efforts to conduct informal family counselling and awareness sessions specifically targeting parents. Communities, women and children are also engaged and encouraged participating in community activities such as meetings and assemblies.

Protective Capability and Compliance

Respondents expressed the need to build the capacity of local authorities aside from the provision of enough budget to the barangays to ensure that resources are enough to better respond to the protection issues in the communities.

Good perception of the community were based mainly on the efforts of the local authorities in performing their duties and responsibilities as duty bearers. Communities shared that local authorities are doing their best in performing their duties and making all possible efforts to respond the needs of the community and keep women and children safe and protected.

Data reveals that communities were able to establish and make protection mechanisms such as VAWC Desk and BCPC and are functional in all the assessed communities except in Midpandakan. Gender and Development (GaD) Council is present in three of eight barangays profiled, specifically Makainis, Lumabao, and Tonggol.

Recommendations

To provide better protection services to women and children in the community, the points below are recommended.

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Institutionalize and strengthen protection mechanisms (Barangay VAWC Desk, BCPC) including establishment of GBV and child protection facilities.
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Train the protection mechanism members on handling VAWC cases and /or gender responsive case management training including data protection.
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Provide training or orientation on setting-up or establishment of safe spaces for children and women especially in times of emergencies, reporting and referral mechanisms.
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Community training and awareness on monitoring, reporting and referral mechanism of protection issues for women and children.
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Continuously conduct community information session on women and child protection to include but not limited to GBV, GCRVs, as well as Women and Child's Rights, and Trafficking
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Develop culturally sensitive and responsive IEC materials for community distribution.
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Establish stand-by funds for immediate needs of GBV/VAWC survivors (can be allocated from gender and development budget)

Persons with specific needs

Nature of Violations and Threats

The common types of persons with specific needs (PWSNs) presence in the eight communities include persons with disabilities, single elderly, pregnant or lactating women, girls at risk, single parents, elderly-headed households, unaccompanied and separated children, and persons with specific legal and physical chronic illnesses.

The reported pressing needs of PWSNs include assistance devices for PWDs, humanitarian assistance, care mechanisms for children and older persons, psychosocial treatment, medical care for persons with chronic illnesses, and medical treatment for survivors of sexual violence.

People with special needs that are internally displaced generally need immediate humanitarian assistance and better access to basic social services as well as safety and security. Common immediate needs identified by the communities include basic humanitarian assistance (food and non-food items), medicine, shelter, clothing, water sanitation and hygiene facilities including toilets or latrines, supplies for persons with special needs (i.e. wheelchair and other devices for PWDs), medical treatment, prenatal services to pregnant women and food supplements to lactating mothers. Communities also expressed that financial support and livelihood activities are needed to help sustain the needs of the family.


Protective Capability and Compliance


All eight respondent barangays shared that the local governments have no budget allocated for persons with specific needs. Therefore, there are no projects implemented for PWSNs.


Communities suggested that PWSN be given proper attention during emergencies. PWSNs should be provided with skills training and livelihood support, according to them.


Recommendations

To improve the capacity of duty bearers and enhance services in order to provide better protection to persons with specific needs in the community, the points enumerated below are recommended.

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Develop social protection plans as well as programs and services for PWSNs in close collaboration with local government unit through the office of social welfare and development office. This must include necessary facilities for PWSNs.
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Ensure that the BLGU will design and implement sustainable livelihood program to ensure food security of the persons with special needs.
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Conduct community awareness sessions must be done to reach wider community members of their rights as well as government services available to support the needs of persons with special needs.
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Give proper attention to PWSNs during emergencies to respond to their needs accordingly. The assistance must be sensitive and responsive to their conditions.

Basic social services

Nature of Violations and Threats

Of the 2,490 total number of households in the 8 barangays profiled, there are 955 households with no access to electricity. There are 1,310 households without access to safe water and 1,120 no access to toilets.

Health stations are functional in four barangays -- Lao-Lao, Makainis, Lumabao, and Quipolot. Schools are present in six barangays -- Kulasi, Pidtiguian, Qupolot, Lumanbao, and Makainis.

Recommendations

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The local leaders need to explore the possibilities with the service providers and related government office to extend services to underserved communities in relation to electrification and WASH-related facilities.
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The barangay councils need to coordinate with the Municipal Health Office to help facilitate the reactivation of the existing health stations.

Safety and security

Nature of Violations and Threats

Among the factors that contribute to the vulnerability of the respondent barangays include history of conflicts and displacements, continuing presence of and sporadic armed conflicts between government security and forces and non-state armed actors, crime, and political violence.

Impact and Effects of Violations

People feel afraid, unsafe and insecure, especially conflict-affected individuals and families.

Communities shared that this situation seriously and adversely affects their economic condition. There is a lack of means to earn a living, loss of livelihood assets, damage or loss of properties and an ongoing financial burden to sustain daily needs. These compounding burdens lead people to further poverty, hunger, and illness.

Children’s education is affected so that many children stop going to school, especially those who were displaced.

Coping Mechanisms of Affected Population

Eight communities reported to have functional BPATs. This supports the community protection mechanisms such as BCPC, VAWC desk, BDRRMC and BHRAC in the barangay. Local monitors have been established.


During displacements, the host communities are willing to accept families and individuals displaced from other communities. They share their spaces and resources with the displaced populations in their communities. It is a great relief for the affected families.

Local authorities put priority to PWSNs when it comes to distribution of humanitarian assistance.


Proper coordination and collaboration of community and local authorities is also noted as helpful means to prevent or minimize the adverse effects of conflict. Conduct of community awareness sessions on safety and security as well as functional and active protection mechanisms (e.g., presence and duty of BPAT) were noted to be a significant factor facilitating the safe and secure evacuation of affected populations during conflicts.

Recommendations

To provide better services and respond to issues on safety and security, the points below are recommended.



- Strengthen local authorities and mechanisms such as BDRRMC with emphasis on early warning systems, BPOC and BPATs.
- Train local officials on conflict management and resolution as well as dialogue facilitation.
- Hold capacity building exercises for the community related to keeping themselves safe in times of emergencies, including but not limited to reporting and referral of security incidents.




- Establish evacuation centers in the community. The community members must be aware of the security protocols including coordination with local authorities for any possible threats.
- Equip local authorities and the community in general with knowledge, skills and strategies to be able to plan out mitigating and or preventing adverse effects of conflicts or violence and be able to provide better access to safety and security.

Documentation

Nature of Violations and Threats

Civil registration is a challenge in the eight assessed barangays. There are 2,755 individuals with no birth certificates. There are 1,870 individuals with no registered marriage contracts. Unavailability of documentary requirements and limited financial ability are among the reasons why these individuals have not registered at the Local Civil Registry (LCR).

Recommendations



The local leaders need to coordinate with the LCR to explore the possibility of extending civil registration to the communities. The local leadership can also support the community members to provide guidance in the registration of birth and marriage contracts.

Housing, land and property (HLP)

Nature of Violations and Threats

A total of 650 individuals from the 8 communities are landowners while 650 are land tenants. There are 605 renters and 650 sharers from the 8 communities.

Communities shared that properties are acquired mostly through inheritance. Others acquired through dowry, purchase, rent and right to use.

Information

Nature of Violations and Threats

The eight communities expressed that they are updated by the ongoing peace process between GPH and MILF. Communities believed that the new structure of the Bangsamoro government will bring sustainable peace and development in the conflict-affected communities and in the region.

SOURCES / REFERENCES:

- Focus Group Discussions (FGD)
- Key Informant Interviews (KII)
- Secondary Data Review



Quick Impact Project (QIP) handover in General Salipada K. Pendatun, Maguindanao Province. ©MMI