

The Mindanao Displacement Dashboard is a monthly publication of the Protection Cluster in Mindanao, Philippines which is co-led by UNHCR with the Department of Social Welfare and Development. This publication aims to provide an overview of the protection environment related to displacement incidents in Mindanao during each month. Data on displacement incidents was collected with the support of Protection Cluster members in Mindanao.



POST-Marawi Siege Recovery and Rehabilitation

Legislative committee hearings are under way for the draft Marawi Siege Compensation Law, with the participation of the Marawi City local government. The proposed law seeks to pave the way for Marawi residents to receive compensation for damaged property/unrecoverable land. The City Assessor's Office of Marawi is processing a significant number of real property tax payments and tax declaration applications that have been filed in anticipation of the passage of the law (tax declaration is perceived as the next best proof of land ownership, particularly if properties are unregistered/not covered by land titles). According to the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), the market value of some parcels of land in Marawi has skyrocketed in view of the planned rehabilitation of the city, with some landowners demanding up to 10 times their lots' acquisition cost.

Despite ongoing interventions implemented both by State actors and humanitarian and development organizations, protection issues continue to be reported among those who are still displaced, most of whom are staying with relatives. Among the concerns commonly raised are: lack of/inadequate food assistance, or issues with the quality of food packs distributed; lack of access to livelihood; and poor sanitation and hygiene due to lack of proper facilities, which also trigger health risks.

Marawi Durable Solutions Updates

As of 30 November 2018, no IDP movement was recorded since the last figures released by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) on 12 October 2018. Based on these validated and adjusted figures, a total of **63,881 families** have already returned to Marawi City, while 15,117 families are still displaced. Out of this, **1,958 families are inside evacuation centers** and **11,754 families** are home-based IDPs. Another **1,405 families** are in transitional shelters (Sagongsongan, Bakwit Village, Angat Buhay, Bahay Pag-asa). Twenty-one (21) evacuation centers are still open, of which six (6) are in Lanao Del Norte and fifteen (15) are in Lanao Del Sur.

Birth Registration and PhilHealth ID Issuance

The first three one-stop shop activities were conducted under UNHCR's Civil Documentation (Birth Registration and ID issuance) project, in the municipalities of Ditsaan Ramin, Bubong and Piagapo, Lanao del Sur. The project covers 14 sites (Marawi City and 13 other municipalities in Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte) by 21 December 2018. At the onset, UNHCR collected and submitted pertinent documentation to the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) for verification and remitted payment for the application forms for Certificates of Live Birth (COLB) to the PSA. Coordination and planning meetings were undertaken together with LGUs and local civil registrars for the actual conduct of the one-stop shops. Before deployment, volunteers who will support the conduct of the One-Stop Shops underwent training on various aspects of the registration and ID issuance process.

Grievance / IDP HelpDesk Mechanism

A total of the 20 Grievance Mechanism access points or Help Desks were established in 6 municipalities. The first 10 helpdesks were established in



Through the One-Stop Shop, IDPs and vulnerable residents of Bubong municipality, Lanao del Sur (one of the areas hosting IDPs from Marawi City since 2017) processed their applications for birth registration. Having birth certificates would help them to access other vital services, such as enrollment of children in school. © UNHCR/R.Miro

the following areas: Bubong (Municipal Hall & Brgy. Batangan); Marantao (Municipal Hall); Ditsaan Ramin (Buadababai & Municipal Hall); Saguarian (Municipal Hall & Pantaon) and Piagapo (Municipal Hall and Radapan Proper).

The remaining 10 HelpDesks are still in operation, but based on feedback from the assigned focal persons, very few IDPs accessed them. During discussions with some IDPs, "interview fatigue" was mentioned as the main reason – most IDPs are growing tired of reporting their concerns to various agencies/organizations, but not hearing of any action undertaken in response to their complaints or needs. Some, on the other hand, had already accessed HelpDesks at other locations (municipal instead of barangay HelpDesks). Closure of the HelpDesks was already recommended by the focal persons, pending further discussion and consultation with other local government units (LGUs).



Displacement due to clan feud (rido) Maguindanao

On 1 November, at least **615 families (approximately 3,075 individuals)** were forcibly displaced due to a firefight between members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and elements of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF). The incident occurred in Sitio Mistah, Barangay Kuloy, Shariff Aguak, Maguindanao. The root cause of the fighting can allegedly be traced to two earlier shooting incidents where a man was gunned down on 29 October in Barangay Satan, Shariff Aguak and another man was killed in Barangay Kuloy, Shariff Aguak on 30 October. Reportedly, both slain men were relatives of commanders of the two parties, leading to a personal dispute that eventually involved their respective followers in the two armed groups. As of 30 November, all IDPs are confirmed to have returned to their respective residences.



Clan feud (rido), Maguindanao

A feud between two rival clans resulted in a firefight on 20 November. The incident took place at Purok 1 of Barangay Kalumamis, Guindulungan municipality, Maguindanao province. One of the clans allegedly chased the other group with firearms, leading to the displacement of 204 families (approximately 1,020 individuals) who fled and took refuge in neighboring purok (sub-villages) and barangays. These IDPs remained displaced as of end of November.

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AFP vs BIFF Maguindanao

Rounds of mortar shelling were reported in the interior communities in the “SPMS Box” (Salbu-Pagatin-Mamasapano-Shariff Aguak) area of Maguindanao province on 16 November, prompting people to flee their homes. Approximately **3,841 families (approximately 19,205 individuals)** have been displaced and have sought refuge in neighbouring communities because of the military operation against the elements of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF). The military operation also triggered a re-positioning of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front’s Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (MILF-BIAF) to avoid confrontations between the parties. Out of the total number of IDPs, 18,216 persons have returned to their residences by end of November, while 990 individuals remained displaced.



AFP vs ASG, Sulu

A heavy firefight reportedly took place between the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and members of Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) in a village in Patikul, Sulu on 5 November. Approximately **125 families (approximately 625 individuals)** were displaced from Barangay Panglayahan to the village proper as a result of the encounter. The AFP’s pursuit operation against the ASG (which still holds some hostages) has no definite timeline for its termination; thus, displacement is also still expected in other municipalities of Sulu. According to local Protection partners, there has been no government support and/or humanitarian interventions despite repeated incidents of displacement. By end of November, the IDPs had all returned to their places of origin.



AFP vs ASG, Sulu

On 16 November, a new armed encounter between military troops and alleged members of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) occurred in Barangay Bagsak, Talipao, Sulu. The incident happened after a cellular network site in the area was allegedly destroyed by the ASG. The firefight also escalated and spread to portions of Barangay Tugas in the nearby town of Patikul, also in Sulu. According to the barangay chairman of Barangay Bagsak, **250 families (approximately 1,250 individuals)** from the said barangay have sought refuge in Bagsak Elementary School since 16 November. As of 30 November, 435 individuals have returned to their habitual residences while 815 persons remain displaced.



BOL updates (as of 30 November 2018)

Some Sulu-based civil society leaders opposed the filing by Sulu Provincial Governor Abdulsakur Tan of a petition in the Supreme Court challenging the constitutionality of the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL). These groups further warned that if the Supreme Court issues a Temporary Restraining Order against the scheduled plebiscite, conflict may re-erupt in Mindanao. In 2008, the Supreme Court declared as unconstitutional the Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain (MOA-AD) signed by the Government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), which led to a state of “all-out war.” The League of Bangsamoro Organizations (LBO) has filed a counter-petition to block Tan’s petition.

On 27 November, President Duterte announced the removal from office of an undersecretary and an assistant secretary from the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) over allegations of corruption. This is believed to have prompted the resignation of the OPAPP chief, Secretary Jesus Dureza, who later issued a statement apologizing for the failure of his efforts to curb corruption within the OPAPP. The Senate Majority Leader recommended outgoing Armed Forces chief of staff General Carlito Galvez, who is retiring on 12 December, as replacement for Dureza’s post.

Meanwhile, 62 barangays (villages) have applied for inclusion in the new Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). Out of these, 56 petitions were filed by the local government units while the rest were submitted by residents. The Commission on Elections has already rejected three of the petitions from barangays that are not contiguous to the Bangsamoro core territory.



Updates: protracted displacement in Zamboanga City

As of August 2018, 546 families (2,724 individuals) remain displaced in Zamboanga City, out of which 246 families (1,224 persons) are staying in transitory sites while 300 families (approximately 1,500 persons) are with relatives or friends. On the week of 12-15 November, UNHCR met with the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO) of Zamboanga City and the Region 9 Office of the Commission on Human Rights (CHR-9) to discuss persistent protection issues in the remaining transitory sites, including poorly lit pathways that trigger safety risks especially for women and children, as well as damaged walls and roofing. The transitory sites were built following the 2013 Zamboanga siege, to serve as temporary shelter while permanent housing units for the displaced families are still under construction. Since closure of all transitory sites and transfer of IDPs to permanent shelters was announced in 2017, humanitarian support both from Government actors and NGO partners has been significantly reduced. To address some of the urgent needs, the CSWDO worked in partnership with UNHCR to distribute core relief items (solar lamps and plastic sheets) to a total of 312 families (approximately 1,560 persons) in 4 transitory sites and 1 relocation site.

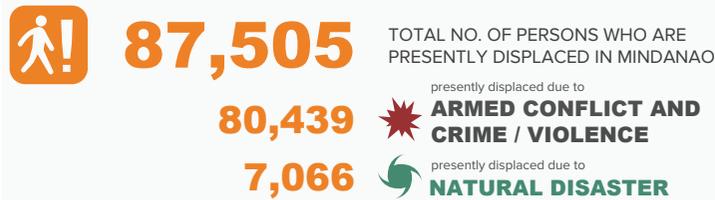


IDPs at Buggoc transitory site in Zamboanga City, who have been protractedly displaced since the 2013 Zamboanga siege, receive some core relief items from UNHCR in partnership with the City Social Welfare and Development Office. ©UNHCR/R.Kulat

The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement note that “internally displaced persons are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border.”

A durable solution is achieved when IDPs no longer have outstanding protection or other humanitarian needs arising from their displacement. Durable solutions can be in the form of: (a) return, (b) local integration or (c) resettlement (to another area). The exercise of any of these options must be (1) voluntary in (2) safety and (3) dignity for a durable solution to be attained.

CURRENT NUMBER OF IDPS IN NEED OF A DURABLE SOLUTION



NUMBER OF INCIDENTS CAUSING DISPLACEMENT (see details in boxes)

	TOTAL IN NOVEMBER 2018		TOTAL SINCE JANUARY 2018	
	INCIDENTS	DISPLACEMENT (persons)	INCIDENTS	DISPLACEMENT (persons)
ARMED CONFLICT AND CRIME / VIOLENCE incidents with displacement	5	25,175	87	187,145
NATURAL DISASTER incidents with displacement	0	0	6	98,064

DISPLACEMENT MOVEMENT IN NOVEMBER 2018



LEGEND



Note: 1. The figures appearing in this document are not comprehensive. The data pertains to those collected by Protection Cluster Partners and collated by UNHCR since 2012.
2. IDPs Protractedly displaced are IDPs who have been displaced for more than 180 days and are still displaced.

