

# MINDANAO DISPLACEMENT DASHBOARD



In coordination with the LGU and CFSI, 204 IDP families received core relief items in Brgy. Gadungan, Sultan sa Barongis Municipality in Maguindanao

## DISPLACEMENT OVERVIEW

As of the 28<sup>th</sup> of February, a total number of **51,275** families (**232,643** individuals) are currently displaced in Mindanao. Those displaced can be classified into three main groups, depending on the length of displacement:

**Group A:** **1,000** families (**4,894** individuals) remain displaced out of 57,646 families displaced within the month;

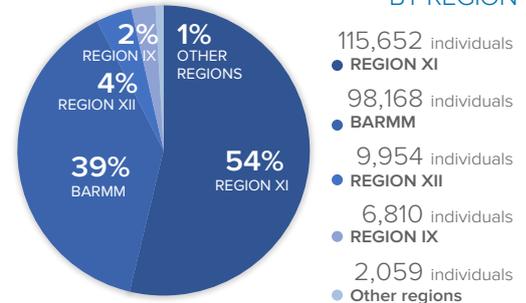
**Group B:** **667** families (**3,092** individuals) remain displaced, and have been protractedly displaced for more than 30 days but less than 180 days; and

**Group C:** **49,608** families (**224,657** individuals) remain displaced and have been protractedly displaced for more than 180 days. Those classified under Group C are concentrated in five main areas:

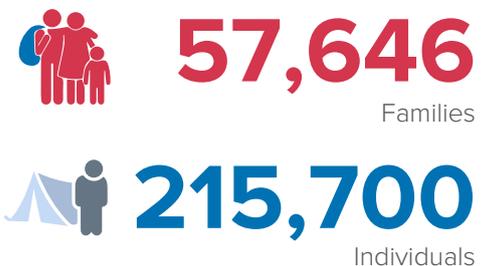
- Zamboanga City: **1,362** families (**6,810** individuals) still displaced due to Zamboanga siege in September 2013.
- Lanao del Sur **17,446** families (**87,230** individuals) still displaced due to Marawi siege in May 2017.
- Eastern Mindanao: **430** families (**1,937** individuals) still displaced due to armed conflict between Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and New People's Army (NPA) since June 2018.
- Northern Mindanao: **29** families (**145** individuals) still displaced due to STS Vinta (Temblin) in December 2017, **14** families (**62** individuals) still displaced due to Typhoon Falcon in July 2019. **96** families (**480** individuals) due to AFP vs. NPA armed conflict in Iligan City in June 2020.
- BARMM Provinces: **1,051** families (**4,241** individuals) still displaced due to armed conflict and crime & violence since August 2017.
- Davao del Sur: **27,400** families (**114,852** individuals) and Cotabato Province: **1,780** families (**8,900** individuals) due to earthquakes.

In February 2021, a total number of **57,646** families (**215,700** individuals) were displaced in Mindanao due to armed conflict (2,545 individuals), natural disaster (210,920 individuals) and crime & violence (12,235 individuals).

### PRESENTLY DISPLACED INDIVIDUALS BY REGION



### DISPLACEMENT IN FEBRUARY

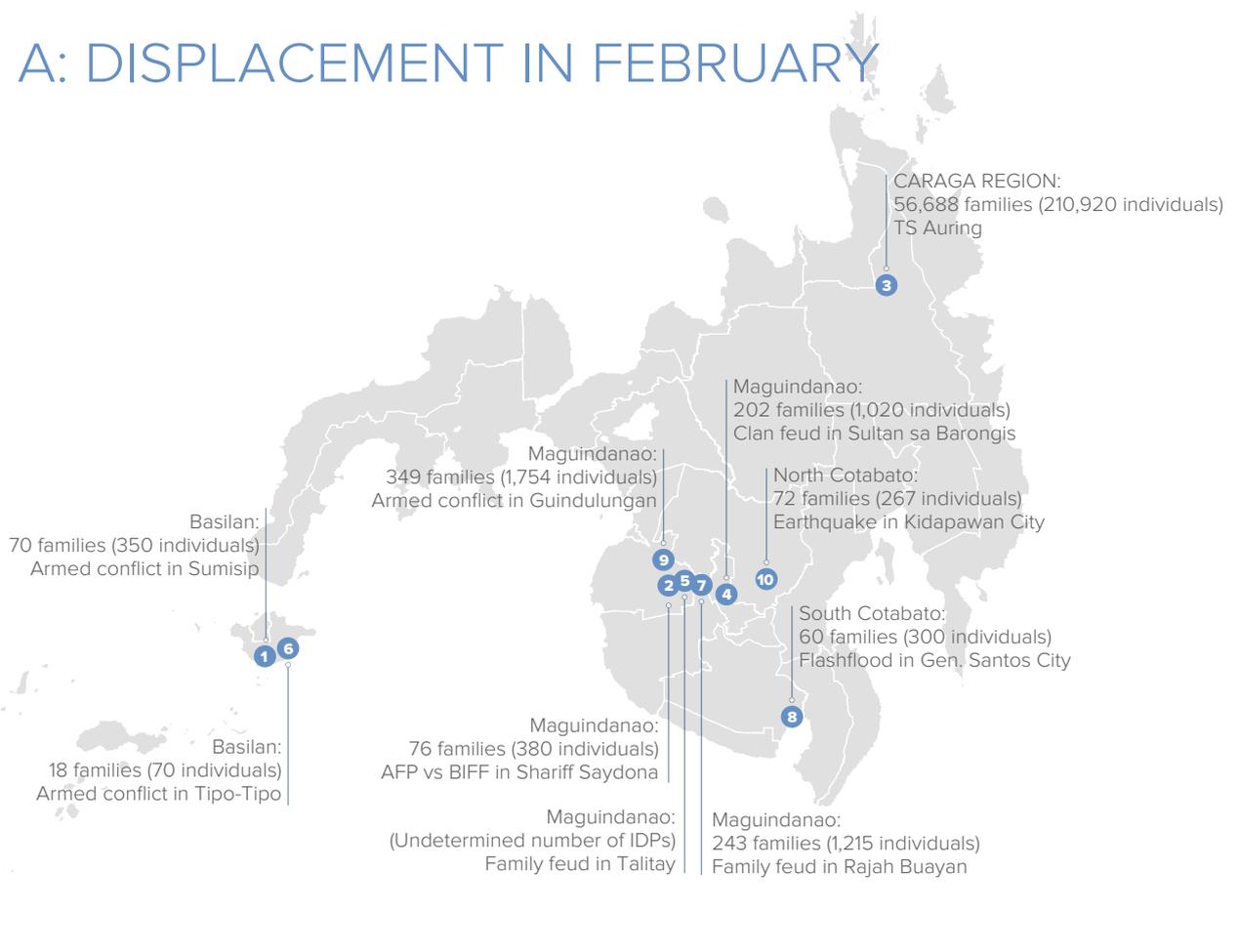


### CIVILIAN CASUALTIES since January 2021



*Note: Figures indicated in this Dashboard are approximate numbers only due to lack of granular sources of datasets.*

# GROUP A: DISPLACEMENT IN FEBRUARY



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

## 1 ARMED CONFLICT IN SUMISIP NICIPALITY, BASILAN PROVINCE

On 28 February 2021 at around 1:30 in the afternoon, a firefight erupted between the AFP and armed men who are allegedly affiliated with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in Brgy. Lukketon, Sumisip Municipality. The two-hour armed encounter between the parties resulted to the displacement of 70 families (approximately 350 individuals) who sought temporary shelters in the neighboring communities of Brgy. Tumahubong and Sitio Behe Buwaye, Brgy. Sukaten, all in Sumisip Municipality, while the rest of the displaced individuals fled in Isabela City. According to reports, the armed encounter resulted to seven casualties from both parties. The members of the Municipal Peace and Order Council (MPOC), under the leadership of the Chief Executive of Sumisip Municipality, convened to discuss on the peaceful settlement of the issue between the parties. According to the initial monitoring conducted by the protection partners, the displaced families expressed they are reluctant to return home due to fear that the conflict might escalate. Among the needs expressed include food assistance and hygiene kits.

## 2 CONFLICT IN SHARIFF SAYDONA MUNICIPALITY, MAGUINDANAO PROVINCE

On 28 February 2021 at around 2 o'clock in the morning, a military detachment situated in Brgy. Pagatin 1, Shariff Saydona Municipality was harassed by alleged members of Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF), resulting to the displacement of around 76 families (approximately 380 individuals) and one house was burned due to the firefight.

The Salbu-Pagatin Road was temporarily closed by authorities for several hours due to the volatility of the situation. The displaced families already returned the day after the displacement, but one family whose house was burned during the incident remains displaced.

## 3 DISPLACEMENT DUE TO SEVERE TROPICAL STORM DUJUAN (TS AURING) IN CARAGA REGION

Based on the report from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office in Caraga, there are 60 municipalities in the region affected by flooding brought by TS Auring, affecting 68,388 families or 251,676 individuals. From these figures, 44,883 families or 163,925 individuals evacuated in 814 evacuation centers and 10,276 families or 41,366 individuals were outside evacuation centers. Majority of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) inside and outside evacuation centers have gone home already. As of end of February 2021, there are only 33 families with a total of 142 individuals who remain displaced in the Municipality of Marihatag, Surigao Del Sur.

A total of 1,986 houses were reported as damaged, of which, 388 houses were totally damaged, and 1,598 houses were partially damaged. The Local Government Units (LGUs) of the affected municipalities and the DSWD Field Office in Caraga have distributed food and non-food items to the affected families.

## 4 CLAN FEUD IN SULTAN SA BARONGIS MUNICIPALITY, MAGUINDANAO PROVINCE

On 26 February 2021 at around 11 o'clock in the evening, a firefight ensued in Brgy. Gadungan, Sultan sa Barongis

Municipality. Based on the information from the local government unit, the group of the village chieftain in Brgy. Gadungan and members of the national guard of Moro Islamic Liberation Front-Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (MILF-BIAF) were involved in the firefight due to long standing dispute which remains unsettled and commonly triggered by the provocative acts from both parties. The incident resulted to the death of one person and four persons were reported wounded. The said gunfight led to the displacement of around 150 families (approximately 750 individuals) who were forced to flee their homes in Brgy. Gadungan and have sought refuge in Sitio Libul, Brgy. Kulambog in the same municipality. The situation remains volatile and members of the Protection Cluster on the ground will continue to monitor and report the situation and ensure that the protection risks and concerns of the displaced population will be urgently attended to. As of 28 February 2021, the total number of IDPs increased to 202 families or 1020 individuals based on the result of the joint assessment conducted by CFSI and MSSD.

#### **5 FAMILY FEUD IN TALITAY MUNICIPALITY, MAGUINDANAO PROVINCE**

On 20 February 2021 at around 10:30 in the evening, a firefight took place in Barangay Gadungan, Talitay Municipality due to family dispute involving an elected official in the said municipality. The incident resulted in the displacement of an undetermined number of civilians who sought refuge to safe grounds in adjacent barangays. Moreover, there are undetermined number of families who went to the adjacent municipalities of Datu Anggal Midtimbang and Datu Odin Sinsuat, all in Maguindanao Province. As per report from the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO) – Talitay Municipality, the displaced families have already returned to their places of origin. The displaced families returned to their places of origin after the tension subsided.

#### **6 ARMED CONFLICT IN TIPO-TIPO MUNICIPALITY, BASILAN PROVINCE**

On 19 February 2021, a firefight ensued between the joint security forces of the government and MILF against unidentified armed men in Brgy. Bohebaca, Tipo-Tipo Municipality. There are 18 families (approximately 70 individuals) from Brgy. Bohebaca who were forced to flee and sought refuge in the neighboring barangay, but they returned to their homes the same day. According to report, one member of the MILF and one from the unidentified armed men were killed during the armed confrontation.

#### **7 FAMILY FEUD IN RAJAH BUAYAN MUNICIPALITY, MAGUINDANAO PROVINCE**

On 14 February 2021 at around 4:00 in the afternoon, around 243 families were displaced from boundary of Sitio RS, Brgy. Panadtaban, Rajah Buayan Municipality and Barangay Masulot, Sultan Sa Barongis Municipality. The displaced families evacuated to Sitio Proper, Brgy. Panadtaban of Rajah Buayan Municipality, and Barangay Masulot and Barangay Darampua, all in Sultan Sa Barongis Municipality. Based from the report from MSSD and protection partners, they fled due to firefights between warring clans in the area.

#### **8 FLASHFLOOD IN GENERAL SANTOS CITY, SOUTH COTABATO PROVINCE**

Around 60 families were reported displaced due to flashflood in General Santos City on 13 February 2021. The displaced families originated from Brgy. Tumbler and they are currently sheltered in two evacuation centers within the city. 55 families are dwelling in Bansil National High School, while 5 families are staying in Diamond Valley.

#### **9 DISPLACEMENT IN GUINDULUNGAN MUNICIPALITY, MAGUINDANAO PROVINCE**

On 7 February 2021, approximately 349 families fled away from their homes due to armed conflict in Sitio Marigen, Barangay Datalpandan in Guindulungan Municipality. A series of mortar shelling and machine gun were fired from a helicopter, targeting an alleged armed group which was reported to be roaming in the area. This caused panic to communities and forced them to seek refuge in safer areas within the municipality.

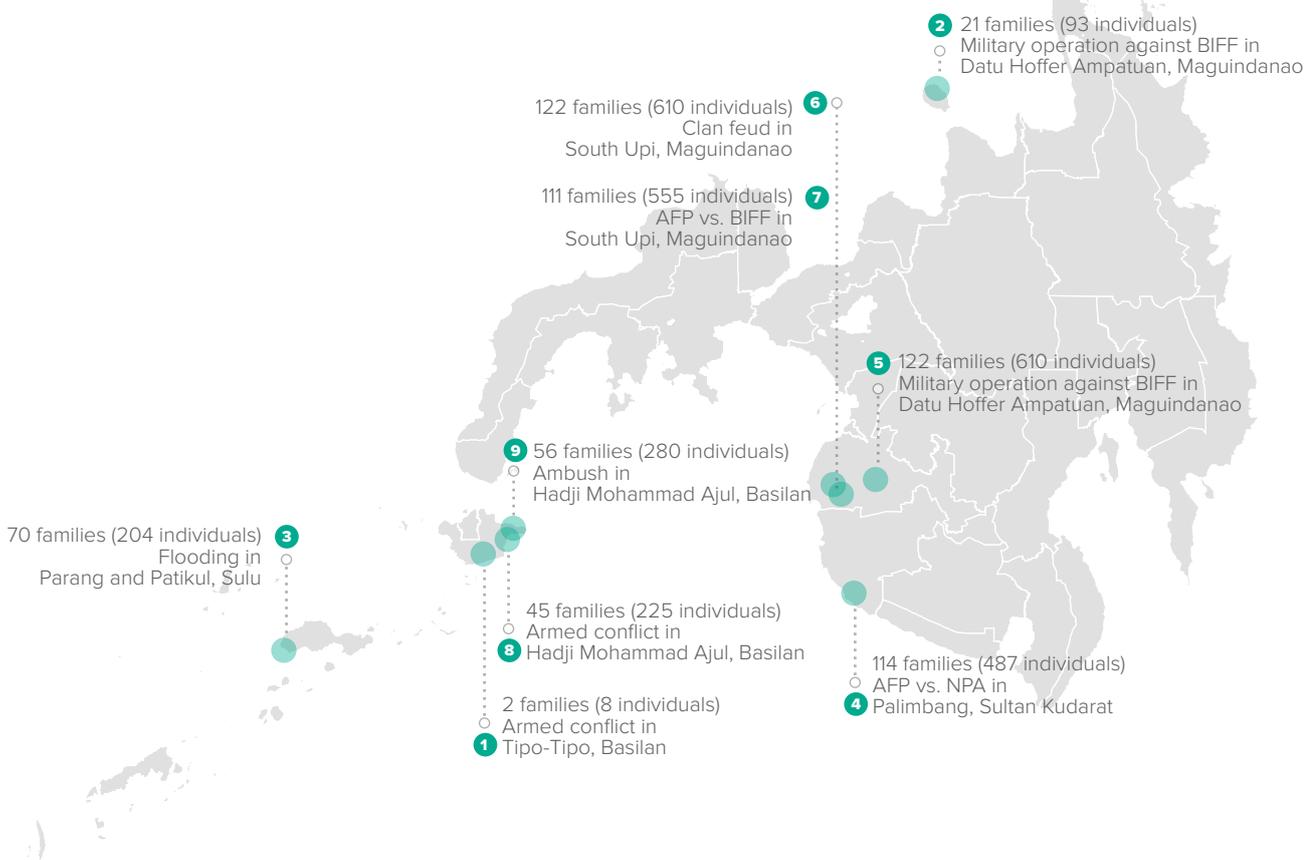
#### **10 DISPLACEMENT IN BRGY. BALABAG, KIDAPAWAN CITY DUE TO EARTHQUAKE**

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) recorded a 6.3 magnitude earthquake in Davao del Sur on 7 February 2021 at around 12:22PM. Varying intensities were also recorded in different areas, with Kidapawan City experiencing intensity level V earthquake. The LGU of Kidapawan City, through its City Social Welfare Office (CSWO) and City Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (CDRRMO), has offered preemptive evacuation to families residing in the identified landslide-prone areas in barangay Ilomavis and Balabag, all in Kidapawan City. Despite the evacuation assistance from LGU, only 22 families (110 individuals) from Sitio Umpan, Brgy. Balabag opted to be relocated to a safer ground within the same barangay, while the residents of Brgy. Ilomavis refused to be relocated and they will only transfer to the identified relocation sites in the barangay when the need arises. Said families signed a waiver by reason of their refusal to be relocated. The staff of CSWO were deployed in various identified relocation sites for the registration of the affected families coming from Sitio Mawig in Brgy. Balabag. Based on the report from the CSWO – Kidapawan City, the total number of displaced families is 72 families (approximately 267 individuals). As of end of February 2021, only 33 families (approximately 104 individuals) remain displaced.

The LGU-Kidapawan City, through its CSWO and CDRRMO, distributed food packs and plastic tarpaulins to the affected families. The displaced families built makeshift houses made from tarpaulins provided since the relocation site is an open area with no concrete structure. Although there are available WASH facilities and water source which can be utilized by the newly-displaced families, they need to share toilets with the families displaced by earthquake last October 2019 who are residing in the area. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) also responded to the needs of the displaced families by providing solar lanterns, constructing WASH facilities, conducting site mapping, and constructing common receiving areas in the camp.

# GROUP B: PROTRACTED DISPLACEMENT

Displacement of more than 30 days



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## 1 ARMED CONFLICT IN TIPO-TIPO MUNICIPALITY, BASILAN PROVINCE

On 29 January 2021, an armed encounter erupted between the joint elements of the security forces of the government and the MILF against the unidentified armed men in Barangay Bangcuang and Bohebeca, Tipo-Tipo Municipality, Basilan Province. Based on the report from the community-based monitors, there were approximately 43 families (around 215 individuals) who were forced to flee and have sought refuge with their relatives within the town. As of the reporting, around 41 families (approximately 207 individuals) already returned to their places of origin, and two families are still displaced.

## 2 FLASH FLOOD IN MAMBAJAO, CAMIGUIN MUNICIPALITY

Around 21 families (approximately 93 individuals) were displaced in Mambajao Municipality in Camiguin Province on 11 January 2021 due to flash flood. The displaced families temporarily occupied the provincial evacuation center until water level subsided. The Provincial Government of Camiguin provided food packs to the affected families. The IDPs already returned to their places of origins days after the flooding has subsided.

## 3 FLOODING IN SULU PROVINCE

On 17 January 2021, moderate to heavy rainfall brought by Low Pressure Area (LPA) resulted to flooding and increase

in sea water levels on the coastal barangays of Patikul, Parang and Jolo Municipalities in Sulu Province. A total of 310 families (approximately 1,583 individuals) were forced to leave their homes to seek temporary shelter with their relatives. According to the local authorities, 244 houses in six barangays were damaged. As of reporting, around 159 families (approximately 688 individuals) already returned to their places of origin, while around 60 families (approximately 140 individuals) remain displaced. Accordingly, the families still displaced are still waiting for their damaged houses to be repaired before they return to their places of origin.

## 4 ARMED CONFLICT IN PALIMBANG MUNICIPALITY, SULTAN KUDARAT PROVINCE

On 3 February 2021, ACCORD, in coordination with the LGU of Palimbang, Sultan Kudarat and the office of the Municipal Social Welfare and Development (MSWD) of the same municipality responded to the protection needs of the 114 displaced families in Palimbang, Sultan Kudarat. These families were forced to flee their homes in Barangay Banbanen since 19 December 2020 due to fear of potential encounters upon alleged sighting of unidentified armed men in their areas. The displaced families sought refuge to barangay Langali, Palimbang, Sultan Kudarat.

ACCORD provided food assistance and hygiene kits as part of their program funded by ECHO, and the same

protection partner/organization sought complementary CRIs from UNHCR to respond on the protection needs for sleeping mats, blankets, plastic mats and emergency lights. UNHCR responded on the request to provide CRI complementation in order to respond to the protection needs of the IDPs, to which UNHCR provided 228 pieces of plastic sheets, 228 pieces of sleeping mats. Aside from distribution of relief items, other activities like proper handwashing, mothers' class and psychosocial activity for the children, facilitated by the Municipal Health Office (MHO) were conducted.

Prior to the distribution, on the earlier of the displacement, LGU Palimbang with the MSWDO, AFP and SB members initially provided food packs to the displaced population following the identified needs as reflected in the report shared by the MSWDO, which include blankets, emergency lights, food, hygiene kits, medicines, plastic mats and sleeping mats.

#### **5 INTENSIFIED MILITARY OPERATION IN DATU HOFFER MUNICIPALITY, MAGUINDANAO PROVINCE**

On 9 December 2020, the residents of Sitio Pamibingan, Brgy. Tuayan Mother in Datu Hoffer Municipality were forced to flee their homes due to the intensified military operation by the AFP. The military operation supports Special Law Enforcement Operations (SLEO) action against the BIFF who were believed to be responsible for the attack in Datu Piang last 3 December 2020.

Based on the initial validation report of the MSWO, there were around 122 displaced families (approximately 610 individuals) from the indigenous people's tribe who have temporarily occupied Datu Aliman Elementary School and housing project at Sitio Proper in Brgy. Mother Tuayan. Emergency food packs were provided to the IDPs by the BARM government.

#### **6 CLAN FEUD IN SOUTH UPI MUNICIPALITY, MAGUINDANAO PROVINCE**

On 7 December 2020, a firefight erupted between warring families, resulting to the displacement of approximately 121 families (around 605 individuals) from Barangay Lamud, South Upi Municipality. These families are currently scattered in Barangay Nangi, Borongotan, and Ganasi of North Upi Municipality. Some of the displaced families were able to build makeshift shelters, while others opted to stay with their relatives in the nearby barangays. The local officials of South Upi and North Upi Municipalities convened to discuss the condition of the affected populations. The MSWO of North Upi Municipality also conducted an initial assessment on the situation and distributed food packs to 60 families that are temporary settled in Sitio S and Sitio Romagongrong of Barangay Nangi. The remaining 10 families have yet to receive any assistance from the government. As of end of February 2021, the number of displaced population have increased to 126 families or 630 individuals. The IDPs sought refuge in Barangay Nangi, North Upi, Maguindanao based on the report from the MSSD-Maguindanao.

#### **7 ARMED CONFLICT IN SOUTH UPI MUNICIPALITY, MAGUINDANAO PROVINCE**

Around 599 families (approximately 2,790 individuals) from Barangays Itaw and Pandan, South Upi were forced to leave their homes following the attacks by the alleged members of the BIFF on 31 December 2020, with the armed group allegedly attacking the military detachment in Barangay Itaw and burning 13 houses abandoned by residents who fled in different areas in order to avoid the gunfire. Some 80 families (approximately 400 individuals) went to adjacent Municipality of Talayan, particularly in Barangay Fugotan, while the rest opted to stay in Barangay Pandan proper. The IDPs who sought refuge in Sitio Focul, Talayan have already returned to their place of origin last 11 January. Based on the report of from MSSD around 111 families (approximately 555 individuals) remain displaced in Barangay Itaw, South Upi Municipality as of end of February 2021.

#### **8 ARMED CONFLICT IN HADJI MOHAMMAD AJUL MUNICIPALITY, BASILAN PROVINCE**

On 20 November 2020, an armed encounter between the members of the MILF and the unidentified armed group ensued in Sitio Pekok of Barangay Langong, Hadji Mohammad Ajul Municipality, Basilan Province. Based on report, there were approximately 45 families (around 225 individuals) who were displaced and have sought refuge with their relatives within the municipality. Community-based monitors also reported that there were casualties as a result of the gunfighting. While investigation on the root cause of the conflict is ongoing, a Joint Task Force composed of the AFP and MILF was deployed to help pacify the tension between the warring factions.

#### **Recurring protection issues raised by the IDPs:**

(1) Limited intervention provided to displaced families both by government and humanitarian agencies. (2) Some displaced families expressed anxiety over shortage of food if displacement continue for a longer period of time. (3) 25 families are living together in one place located in Brgy Langong. IDP can no longer practice covid-19 protocols such as social distancing. Lack of privacy was also raised by the women and mothers. (4) Limited attention to home-based IDPs both by government and humanitarian actors.

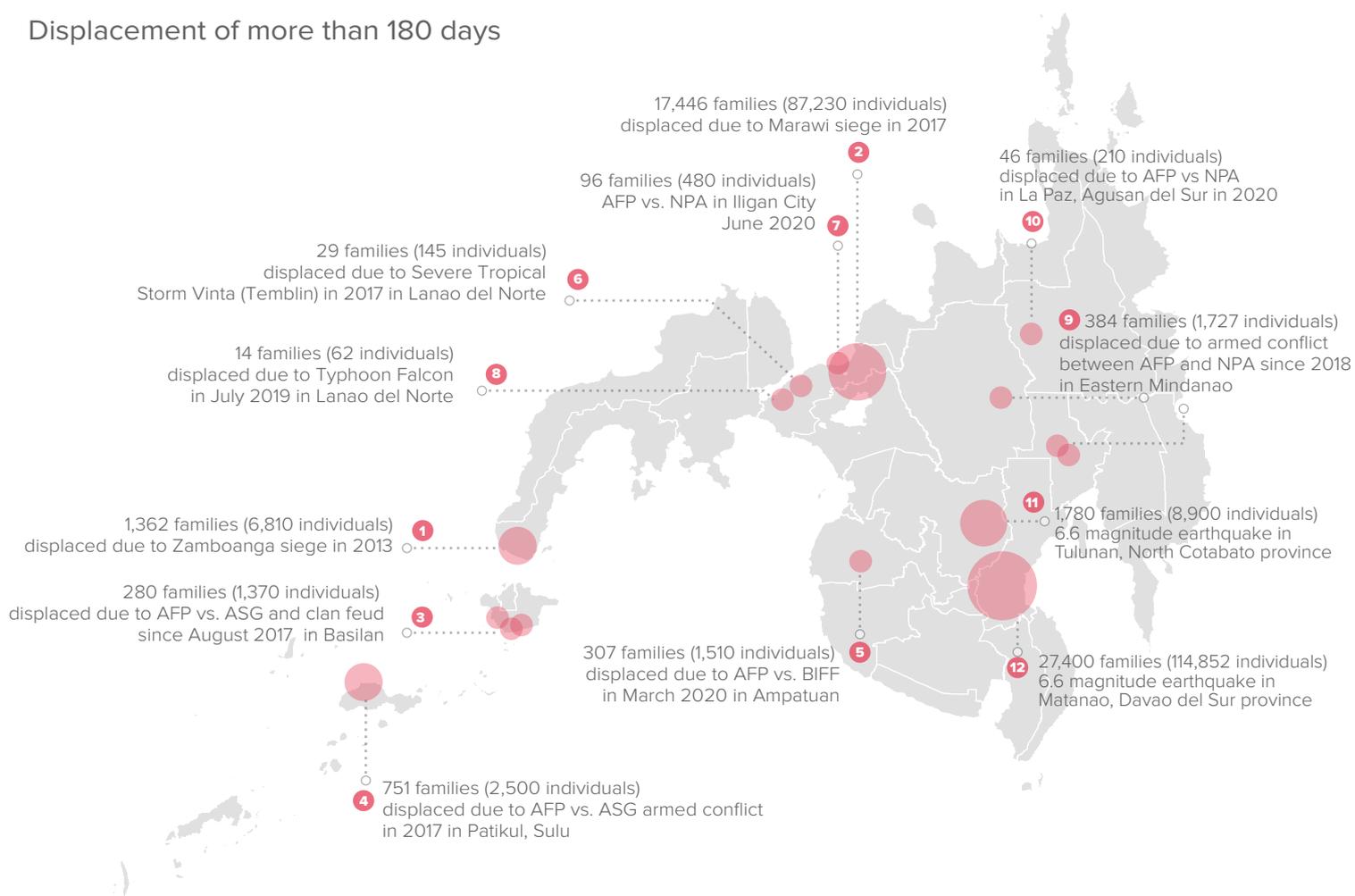
#### **9 AMBUSH IN HADJI MOHAMMAD AJUL MUNICIPALITY, BASILAN PROVINCE**

On 17 October 2020, two alleged members of the of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (BIAF-MILF) were ambushed by unidentified gunmen. This was subsequently followed by a joint operation of the AFP and the elements of the MILF-BIAF against the suspected perpetrators in Brgy. Tuburan Proper, Mohammad Ajul Municipality on 23 October 2020, resulting to the displacement of civilians.

As of 30 November 2020, around 56 families (approximately 280 individuals) are still displaced and residing with their relatives in an undisclosed location in Lamitan City.

# GROUP C: PROTRACTED DISPLACEMENT

Displacement of more than 180 days



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## 1 ZAMBOANGA SIEGE

Displaced since September 2013

Beyond seven years after the Zamboanga Siege in 2013, more than 1,362 families (approximately 6,810 individuals) are still waiting for the completion of the permanent housing units under the Zamboanga City Roadmap to Recovery and Rehabilitation (Z3R). Of the total number, 77 families continue to dwell across the four transitory sites, while 1,285 families are currently being hosted by their relatives and friends. The Local Inter-Agency Committee (LIAC) attributed the prolonged transfer of the remaining displaced families to the delays in the approval of purchasing the properties where the permanent housing units will be constructed by the National Housing Authority (NHA).

With the delays in the completion of the permanent houses, these families are continuously facing recurring protection issues and great exposure to the COVID-19. Among the protection needs of the IDPs are the following:

1. Provision of hygiene kits consisting of alcohol, mask, and face shield
2. Repair of the damage boardwalks
3. Improvement of the WASH facilities
4. Additional food packs prioritizing people with specific needs
5. Quick distribution of the rice subsidies while community quarantine protocols are still in effect
6. Livelihood support to low income families



**77 families are living inside the transitory sites.** The four remaining transitory sites are Buggoc, Asinan, Mampang, Rio Hondo.



**1,285 families in home-based settings.** 778 homeowner families without tagging are in homebased settings.

### BREAKDOWN OF IDPs PER TRANSITORY SITE

TRANSITORY SITES	FAMILIES	INDIVIDUALS
Mampang TS	12	60
Rio Hondo TS	17	85
Asinan TS	24	120
Buggoc TS	24	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>385</b>

## 2 MARAWI DISPLACEMENT

Displaced since 23 May 2017

As of January 2021, 17,768 families have been displaced from the most affected areas of Marawi City according to the TFBM. Of which, around 113 families had returned to their houses in Barangay Tolali, Marawi City; approximately 209 families are relocated in Pagalamatan Permanent Shelter in Saguiran Municipality and Barangay Dulay West, Marawi City; and around 2,943 families are scattered in transitory sites. In January 2021, TFBM and other government agencies have facilitated the transfer of around 43 families from community-based evacuation centers (CBEC) to Boganga Transitory Site after series of validation exercises were jointly conducted. There are approximately 24 families who remain at the CBEC in Iligan City (Ceanuri Mahad Alnor Madrasah) and Marawi City (Cabasaran Madrasah and Datu Saber Tents) that have yet to be validated.

At the end of February 2021, around 17,446 families (approximately 87,230 individuals) belonging to the most affected areas (MAA) remain displaced and in need of durable solutions. This figure is subject to further verification to account for those IDPs who may not have been covered by the Kathanon.

**While displaced families are still struggling to get back to normalcy after the siege, the COVID-19 crisis exacerbated their situation. Below are the reported needs and issues of IDPs:**



**Access to assistance.** Home-based IDPs do not receive much assistance as compared to those in transitory sites. Sharers in the transitory sites complained of being excluded from assistance. There are existing CBEC where families claimed to be IDPs but are not accessing any assistance. Beneficiary selection for assistance (e.g. shelter) only prioritizes homeowners and renters in MAA and the rest are only secondary regardless of vulnerability, especially on permanent shelters. There are also vulnerable families who had returned and are needing assistance like those in the transitory sites. As a response, the government had completed the Transitory Family Support Package (PhP14,400.00) aimed to support the food needs and/or as a start-up capital for the livelihood activities of the IDPs.



**Less participation of IDPs to matters affecting them.** There are IDPs who were not able to register under the Kathanon. This may potentially result to exclusion of some IDPs as government assistance make use the Kathanon as basis. Also, there are less participation of IDPs on rehabilitation and return and if they can return to their places of origin, issues and concerns are not fully accommodated. A community-based or transitory site-based IDP consultation can encourage IDP participation and provide accurate information to the IDPs. IDP assemblies and consultation hearings were conducted, but only those IDPs who can physically participate attended said gatherings.



**Lack of food and livelihood.** The emergence of COVID-19 affected the livelihood of the IDPs which, in turn, impacted their ability to meet their daily food needs. It was also observed that after the Enhance Community Quarantine (ECQ), there has been limited food distributions conducted. IDPs are still in need of nutritious foods since foods received or delivered are only dry commodities (i.e noodles, rice, canned goods).



**Access to WASH.** Insufficient water supply is the prevailing issue in transitory sites. Poor hygiene and sanitation increase health risk especially for vulnerable people (full septic tanks, clogged drainage, no waste management).



**Tension build up at the transitory sites** due to various reasons such as water distribution schedule, abuse of authority and privileges among official and unofficial occupants and assistance provided, among others.



**Limited access to basic facilities** (Barangay Health Station, City Health Office, hospital, market, school) due to limited mobility and insufficient resources available. The capacity of the facilities is enough for the host community. High transportation fare limits the movement of IDPs. There are E-trikes provided by the Libreng Sakay program of the LGU in the transitory site similar in Rorogagus Transitory Site, but they only travel on scheduled basis and has limited seating capacity.



**Lack of CCCM.** There is lack of dedicated and full-time camp managers or administrators in the transitory sites that would receive the feedback and liaise with decision makers as regards the protection and humanitarian issues they are facing in the sites. Strong CCCM can be helpful to address the issues or problems existing at the transitory site. Last November 2020, IOM conducted CCCM training attended by IDP leaders as means to address lack of effective CCCM.



**Durable Solution.** Prolonged return to the place of origin. IDPs are aware that the government has a sectoral schedule of return. However, they could only hope for their immediate return to their places of origin and resume with their regular, normal living.



**Shelter:** 24 families are staying in CBEC. Many of these families have expressed a need for shelter assistance. The government, through the TFBM and CSWO, has yet to conduct validation exercise for these families

Municipality	Barangay	Exact Location	Families
Iligan City	Tomas Cabili	Mahad Alnor-al-Islamie in Ceanuri	10
Marawi City	Cabasaran	Purok Tumarumun Madrasah	4
	Datu Saber	Datu Saber	10
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>24</b>



**0 families in evacuation centers** are in urgent need for shelter that will provide protection from the elements



**2,943 families in transitory sites** are in need of water and sanitation interventions



**14,612 families in home-based settings** are in need of adequate information regarding available assistance, plans for return and rehabilitation of the most-affected areas

### 3 BASILAN

(Displaced since October 2018)

As of the end of November 2020, the total number of protractedly displaced in Basilan is 280 families (approximately 1,370 individuals) in the following municipalities:

Five families (25 individuals) are still displaced due to the armed encounter between the AFP and ASG from Unkaya Pukan Municipality on February 2018.

175 families (875 individuals) are still displaced due to series of arson incidents and fear of retaliation from the feuding families in Sumisip Municipality last May 2019.

100 families (470 individuals) are still displaced due to unresolved family feud in Tabuan Lasa Municipality last January 2020.

**Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the displaced families have experienced below protection issues:**



Displaced families who sought temporary shelters with their relatives reported lack of privacy due to the small space shared by three to five families. Some IDPs constructed extension or division of houses using light materials, such as cardboard and sacks, to decongest the host community. Displaced families raised concerns on their inability to access their property and farmland. Farming, as their main source of income, was hampered due to insecurities brought about by the armed conflict.



Some displaced families raised concerns on the effects of COVID-19 pandemic on their livelihood opportunities, and some have difficulties accessing the local market.



Displaced families raised concerns on access to WASH facilities. According to some IDPs, there is limited number of latrines available in the location where they sought temporary shelter, and some families were practicing open defecation.

### 4 SULU PROVINCE

Displaced since September 2017

As of 31 January 2021, around 751 families (approximately 2,500 individuals) remain displaced. This is an increase from the reported 652 families (approximately 2,005 individuals) in Sulu Province last 30 November 2020. The increase in number is due to the revalidation and reassessment conducted by the barangay officials of Brgy. Panglayahan and representatives of the Municipal LGU, as part of government efforts to help facilitate the safe return of displaced families in their places of

origin. The provincial government of Sulu has facilitated the establishment of task force at the municipal level in November 2020. The task force is supporting the cessation of armed conflict and the Balik-Barangay Program which seeks to assist/facilitate the safe return of the displaced families to their places of origin.

Other issues raised by the displaced families include the houses they have left in their places of origin due to prolonged displacement since they were not able to visit their houses given security restrictions and some of their houses were already partially damaged. The outbreak of COVID-19 also has impacted the economic activities of the affected population. People cannot deliver their farming products in the markets because of the imposed community quarantine. Some NGOs extended assistance on livelihood gardening.

Out of the 751 families (approximately 2500 individuals), 212 families (approximately 259 individuals) voluntarily returned to their places of origin under the Balik-Barangay Program of the Municipal Local Government Unit (MLGU). UNHCR and its partner complemented the return package provided by the MLGU with core relief items such as mosquito nets, mats, plastic sheets and solar lamps. The remaining 539 families (approximately 1,621 individuals) are also set to return in the next few months.

## 5 MAGUINDANAO

Displaced since March 2020

**Ampatuan:** An armed conflict erupted between government security forces and BIFF in Sitio Malating, Barangay Salman, Ampatuan Municipality, Maguindanao Province on 30 March at around nine o'clock in the evening. According to the reports from the MDRRMO of Ampatuan Municipality and the barangay official of Salman, around 1,470 individuals (approximately 294 families) were displaced as a result of the mortar shelling. Also, there were farm animals that were hit by the mortars in Sitio Ugapok in Barangay Salman. The MSWD Office and MDRRMO are tracking and continuously monitoring the movement of the IDPs in their respective areas. As per reports from MSSD Maguindanao, around 320 families remain displaced in Sitio Ugapok, Brgy. Salman, Ampatuan. Some opted to stay with their relatives from Sitio Masalay, Ampatuan in search for more decent living than in evacuation centers. Others stayed in the AMARDI evacuation center, while the other IDPs built makeshifts in Sitio Masalay until the situation in their places of origin improves.

Last 10 October 2020, their community was affected by massive military operation of the AFP against the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters. As of end of February 2021 update from MSSD Maguindanao, there are 250 families or 1,250 individuals remain displaced in Ampatuan Municipality.

As of 24 November 2020 report of MSSD Maguindanao, around 307 families remain displaced in Salmand and Saniag. They were not able to return to their places of origin because of continued insecurity in their communities.

## 6 DISPLACEMENT DUE TO TROPICAL STORM VINTA

Displaced since December 2017

Of the 24 displaced families due to Tropical Storm Vinta last 2017, 20 families had already transferred to temporary shelter they themselves have constructed as the tents they occupied are no longer livable, while the four families are still enduringly living on the dilapidated tents established in Barangay Dalama, Tubod, Lanao del Norte. The permanent shelter construction by LGU-Tubod, with support assistance from Philippine Red Cross, has yet to be completed. The five displaced families (due to Tropical Storm "Vinta") in Munai are still occupying the primary school and rice mill in the community. The families were unable to construct their own houses and they are currently staying in these facilities.

## 7 ARMED CONFLICT IN ILIGAN CITY, LANA DEL NORTE PROVINCE

Displaced since June 2020

On 26 June 2020, an alleged member of the NPA ambushed a Citizen Armed Force Geographical Unit (CAFGU) detachment in Purok Kadayonan of Barangay Kalilangan, Iligan City, injuring two CAFGUs and forcibly displacing 380 families. As per information shared by CSWO Iligan, the displaced families are from Barangays Dulag and Kalilangan, all from Iligan City. As of reporting, there are still 96 out of 380 families which have not yet returned to their places of origin and have opted to stay with their relatives in the said barangay due to security reasons. The LGU of Iligan, together with the military, provided GI sheets to 36 families in three puroks in Barangay Kalilangan. Despite the provision of shelter tools, the families were not able to construct sturdy houses due to lack of financial resources. The remaining 60 displaced families opted to stay in Barangay Dulag and are sharing shelter with relatives. Displaced families are in need of shelter assistance, livelihood support, electricity, latrines and readily accessible water source since most of the families are getting water from spring and deep wells which are distant from their IDP sites, posing security risks especially for children. CSWO of Iligan conducted an assessment with focus on shelter to get the situation of displaced families.

## 8 DISPLACEMENT DUE TO TYPHOON FALCON

(Displaced since July 2019)

14 families who have been occupying makeshift houses in an abandoned poultry house in Maranding, Lala were transferred to a temporary shelter located in Barangay Rebe, Lala by LGU with support from the National Housing Authority (NHA). These families are from Brgy. Maranding, Lala, Lanao del Norte whose houses were originally situated near the riverside and were washed-out due to Typhoon Falcon in 2019. Accordingly, these families can stay at the temporary shelter until the LGU is able to provide them with permanent shelter. Livelihood activities of these IDPs, which comprise mostly of hollow blocks- making, are still ongoing even while staying at the abandoned poultry house. Hence, provision of permanent shelters is the major need expressed by the IDPs.

## 9 DISPLACEMENT OF INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES IN EASTERN MINDANAO

(Displaced since December 2017)

**Davao region:** Around 160 families (800 individuals) are still taking shelter in the Haran Compound of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP) in Davao City. Many of the IDPs have been protractedly displaced since 2017, while some were displaced on 2018 and were unable to return due to the volatile security situation in their communities. These IDPs are indigenous peoples (IPs) coming from remote villages in the municipalities of Kapalong and Talaingod, Davao del Norte province, and Compostela Valley province in Region XI.

**Bukidnon:** 224 families (927 individuals) are still displaced in the province, 99 families of which have been displaced in Barangay Kawayan since November 2018. Some are staying at Sitio Spring, Barangay Kawayan in San Fernando Municipality, while the 125 families are staying in barangay Magkalungay in the same municipality. They were provided with a parcel of land by the Barangay Local Government Unit as their temporary resettlement area.

### Protracted displacement affecting the indigenous people have exposed them to:



**1. Human rights violations:** Displacement in the IP areas of Eastern and Northeastern Mindanao is frequently triggered or accompanied by killings of community leaders and attacks on learning facilities. These communities' strong advocacy for the protection of their rights to their ancestral domain has caused the community to classify them as insurgents or NPA sympathizers.



**2. Access to humanitarian assistance:** In most cases of internal displacement in IP areas, particularly those affecting remote indigenous villages, little to no assistance reaches the IDPs. In some instances, their preemptive evacuation due to military presence in their communities is neither recognized by authorities as a basis for their registration as IDPs nor as a basis for their entitlement to aid. Local civil society groups and even humanitarian organizations seeking to provide support also run the risk of getting tagged as rebel supporters. With this highly politicized context, the humanitarian community faces a major challenge in drawing attention to urgent and legitimate humanitarian needs.



**3. Durable solutions:** Recurring cycles of displacement are often observed in many indigenous communities with a strong history of resisting military presence or incursion. While displacement tends to be short-term and sporadic as compared to other areas of Mindanao, vulnerability is heightened with each incident of evacuation. This recurring pattern places these fragile communities at grave risk of further violations.

## 10 INTENSIFIED MILITARY OPERATIONS IN LA PAZ, AGUSAN DEL SUR PROVINCE

On 26 January, around 1,025 families (approximately 5,125 individuals) – 525 families from Barangay Valentina and 500 families from Barangay Kasapa II, all in La Paz, Agusan del Sur were displaced from their communities following the intensified military operations against NPA in the said area. Most of the IDPs are indigenous peoples dwelling with their relatives within the affected barangays. Both barangays declared a state of calamity, allowing them to utilize the emergency calamity fund and thus, they are capacitated to provide necessary assistance to the IDPs.

The LGU conducted a Rapid Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis (RDANA) and it continues to monitor the situation on ground. It provided food packs through the MSWDO and it also conducted a community feeding program for the IDPs.

The LGU deployed a program that provides government services on wheel where line agencies provide start-up capital for livelihood, coconut seedlings, health check-ups, and medicines to the IDPs. The local city registrar also issued free Senior Citizens ID to the elderly. Several government programs under the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), such as KALAHI-CIDSS and PAMANA, have been suspended in the said areas due to ongoing military operations.

As of 10 March, majority of the IDPs have already returned to their respective residences. Approximately 42 families (210 individuals) are still displaced in Barangay Kasapa 2, La Paz, Agusan del Sur.

## **11 EARTHQUAKE IN COTABATO PROVINCE**

Displaced since October 2019

On 16 October 2019 at 07:37 PM, a 6.3 magnitude earthquake jolted the municipality of Tulunan, North Cotabato, with a tectonic origin and a depth of focus of 8 km. It was also felt in municipalities surrounding Tulunan.

On October 29, an earthquake was again felt in the Municipality of Tulunan, North Cotabato, this time registering a 6.6 magnitude. The earthquake was also felt in neighboring provinces such as Maguindanao and Davao del Sur.

As of 18 December 2020, around 1,780 families (approximately 8,900 individuals) have taken temporary shelter in 12 evacuation centers, while home-based IDPs have returned to their places of origin. There are around 29,703 damaged houses, of which, around 8,873 are totally damaged and approximately 20,830 are partially damaged. A total of 46,761 families (around 233,805 individuals) were affected by the earthquake incident in 211 barangays in Region XII.

As of January 2021, housing construction (shelter assistance) for the IDPs in Kidapawan city is already built in the three barangays of the said city. However, identifying a safe relocation site and compliance to required documents remained a challenge for Magpet and Makilala.

DSWD Region XII is now focusing on its recovery programs, including the provision of Emergency Shelter Assistance (ESA) amounting to PhP10,000.00 for families with partially damaged houses and/or PhP30,000 for families with totally damaged houses. Also, DSWD has ongoing provision of Cash for Work assistance for families with partially and/or totally damaged houses. But with the release of its terminal report on the displacement incidences (moving from emergency response to recovery phase), this affected the timely monitoring of IDP figures.

On March 2, 2021, the OIC-City Social Welfare Officer of Kidapawan reported that there are 497 displaced families already occupying the relocation sites; 155 families in the transitory sites; 55 families have returned to their places of origin; 92 families are settling in a land bought by the municipal local government unit, 50 families are scheduled for relocation while others are waiting for relocation. There are also 79 constructed housing for occupation in barangay Perez and 411 under ongoing construction of housing units in barangay Ilomavis while a parallel ongoing sites development to other sites for the displaced population.

## **12 EARTHQUAKE IN DAVAO DEL SUR**

Displaced since December 2019

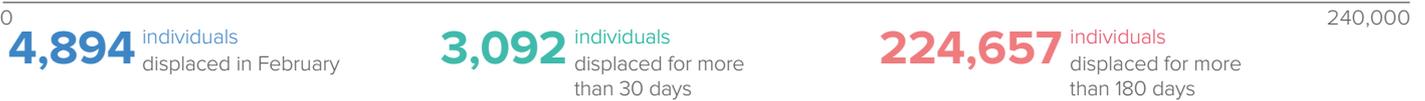
On 15 December 2019, a 6.9-magnitude earthquake shook the province of Davao del Sur and surrounding areas. The epicenter of the earthquake was located 9 kilometers northwest of Matanao, Davao del Sur at a depth of 3 kilometers. The Municipalities of Matanao and Magsaysay in Davao del Sur recorded the strongest intensity, with surrounding municipalities experiencing destructive shaking. According to the Pacific Disaster Center (PDC), an estimated 4.4 million people or 830,000 households live in towns that sustained strong tremors.

Some of the affected communities were already burdened by the October earthquakes. The latest earthquake to hit said area is the fourth quake with intensity above magnitude 6 for the last two months, all within a radius of 12km. with 6.3-magnitude earthquake on 16 October, magnitude 6.6 on 29 October, magnitude 6.5 on 31 October and the recent is magnitude 6.9 on 15 December.

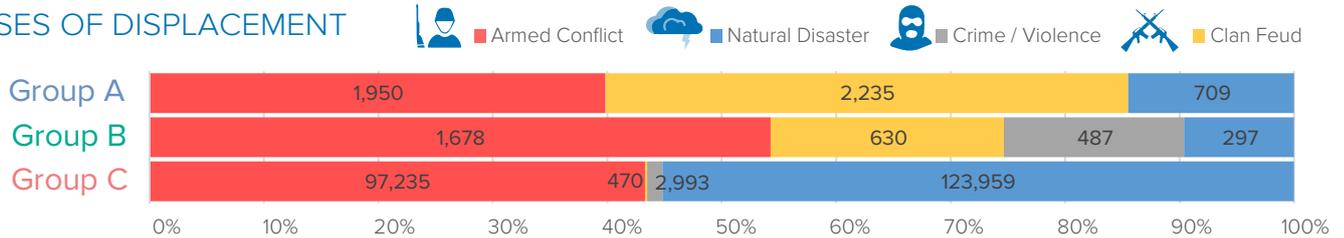
According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), almost 87,000 families (around 397,000 individuals) are affected in 397 barangays in Region XI and XII. In total, 13 were killed and over 200 people were injured by collapsing structures, falling debris, cardiac arrest, and other earthquake-related traumas. As of 11 September, around 2,209 families (approximately 8,030 individuals) are taking shelter in 22 evacuation centers, while around 25,191 families (approximately 106,822 individuals) families are staying in homebased settings. As of March 1, 2021 update from DSWD Region 11, there are now only 19 remaining ECs in Davao Del Sur. The exact figure still needs to be validated and subject to verification.

## KEY DISPLACEMENT FIGURES (2012-2020)

**232,643** currently displaced individuals since 2012



### CAUSES OF DISPLACEMENT



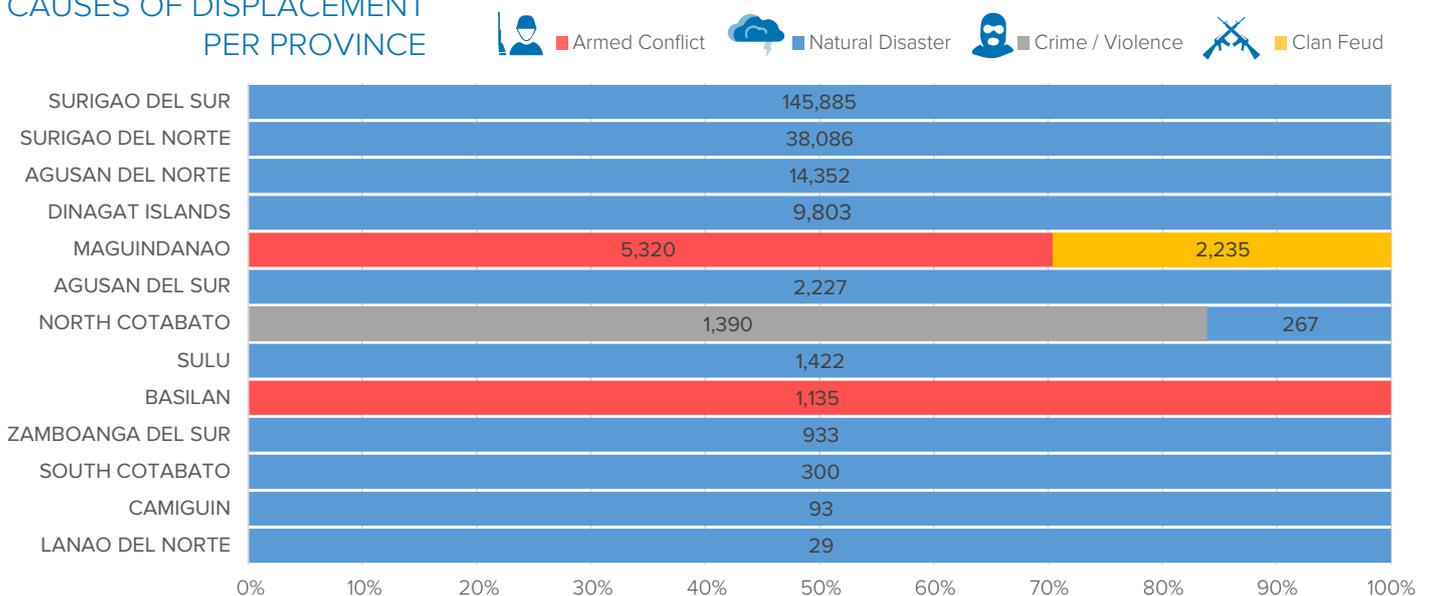
**TOTAL: 232,643**

## IN THE COURSE OF 2021

### DISPLACEMENT FROM JANUARY TO FEBRUARY



### CAUSES OF DISPLACEMENT PER PROVINCE



**TOTAL: 223,477**



# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

## **QUICK IMPACT PROJECT (QIP) HANDOVER IN TANDUBAS MUNICIPALITY, TAWI-TAWI PROVINCE.**

On 5 February 2021, UNHCR and its partner Integrated Resource Development for Tri-People (IRDT) handed over the QIP implemented by the people of Barangay Ballak in Tandubas Municipality, Tawi-Tawi Province. Said handover was attended by representatives from the local government units, project committee members and the barangay officials. The barangay chairperson expressed his heartfelt gratitude in behalf of the 893 individuals who will directly benefit from the project. The rehabilitation of the water system level 2 was identified by the project management committee as priority project that will address issues on safe access to water, hygiene and sanitation among young women, children and elderly.

## **JOINT TFBM-MHT COORDINATION MEETING.**

UNHCR participated in the joint TFBM-MHT coordination meeting last 4 February 2021. Said meeting was attended by MHT members, namely: UN Habitat, IOM, WFP, IMT, CRS, AAH, Save the Children, Ecoweb, Maradeca, CARE, CFSU, Plan International, Dayog Marawi, MSF and MMI. The objective of the meeting is for MHT members to present their activities, programs and projects in various areas in Marawi, Butig and Piagapo. UNHCR presented its protection activities for Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte and the target sites for QIPs implementation. UNHCR also raised the existing and persistent protection issues faced by IDPs at the transitory sites such as the CCCM and its sectoral issues and WASH to

TFBM. Other issues raised are the following:

- o WASH particularly on full septic tanks: There is budget for desludging. However, desludging is too costly and the concerned government agencies, including TFBM, are exploring other alternatives like procurement of vehicles or establishment of sewerage treatment plant. But numerous factors are needed to be considered, such as the procurement process of the government.
- o On the CCCM, there is a need to strengthen the CCCM to address sectoral issues at the TS like the tension build up, WASH, etc. Per ASEC, once the TS is turned over to LGU, the LGU has the responsibility for the management of TS. There are existing Camp Administrator in the area and IDPs can direct their concerns to the assigned. TFBM Field Office Manager Asec. Felix Castro Jr. will forward said issues to concerned LGU and CSWO.

## **UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR'S COURTESY VISIT TO UNHCR COTABATO FIELD OFFICE.**

The United Nations (UN) Resident Coordinator (RC) in the Philippines, Gustavo Gonzalez, made a courtesy visit to UNHCR Field Office in Cotabato on 20 February 2021. Among the highlights of the visit include the discussions on the reasons of massive and protracted displacements in Mindanao, establishment of UNHCR Field Office in Cotabato and its operations, its advocacy and leadership role in IDP protection, displacement tracking and monitoring and reporting in partnership with key government agencies and protection partners, and protection

coordination. The Head of Field Office also shared the eventual handover of UNHCR's protection undertakings to the BARMM government as part of its responsible disengagement through the creation of a Memorandum of Agreement. The RC lauded the excellent work that UNHCR has been accomplishing since its institution in the Philippines and its continuing mission to provide durable solutions for the IDPs. He emphasized the need to focus on providing durable solutions for the IDPs through coordination with state and humanitarian actors, familiarization with the Socioeconomic and Peacebuilding Framework as main tool for coordination of the UN work in the Philippines, and the coordination and forging of alliance and coalitions among UN agencies.

**MINDANAO VIRTUAL PROTECTION COORDINATION PLATFORM (MVPCP)**  
In the present circumstances where no 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) will strengthen coordination among relevant actors with a protection role (from regional and provincial down to municipal and community level) in Mindanao.

Under the leadership of Ministry of Social Services and Development (MSSD) and with full participation of key state agencies: DSWD, BARMM READI and IATF, members of MVPCP will work closely to ensure that COVID-19 related prevention and response initiatives at the national level include IDPs, while at the same time closely monitoring their application to ensure that IDPs 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.

For more information, please visit the Protection Cluster website <http://www.protectionclusterphilippines.org/> or e-mail us at [PHICOPRC@unhcr.org](mailto:PHICOPRC@unhcr.org)

