

Date of Incident: 15 January 2019

Issue No. 01; 17 January 2019

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) vs New People's Army (NPA) in Iligan City

INCIDENT BACKGROUND

An armed encounter occurred between the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and members of the New People's Army (NPA) at around 6:00 am on 15 January 2019 in the area encompassing the boundaries of Barangay Rogongon, Barangay Mainit, and Barangay Digkilaan, all in Iligan City, Lanao del Norte. The most affected sites are Sitio Lower, Sitio Pudog, and Sitio Bucana in Barangay Mainit, where most of the IDPs come from. According to the Barangay Chairperson of Barangay Mainit, there have been previous sightings of armed men, allegedly from Barangay Rogongon, near the periphery of their barangay.

CURRENT SITUATION

At least 143 families (approximately 715 persons) were displaced from Barangay Mainit and are staying in three different evacuation centers, also in Brgy. Mainit: Ampokaw Multi-purpose Hall in Sitio Ampokaw, Covered Court, and Mainit Elementary School. In addition, one (1) family who was also displaced from Barangay Mainit is currently hosted in a home within the neighboring Barangay Digkilaan. Other reported evacuation centers (such as one in Caribao) are still being validated. None of the IDPs interviewed have confirmed that they saw armed men in the area, but they stated that they fled their homes after hearing gunfire.

The City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO) conducted an initial assessment, and is in the process of validating the numbers and locations of IDPs. The local government unit (LGU) of Iligan City distributed food packs to the IDPs, while the Philippine Red Cross provided psychosocial support services. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs also conducted a field visit to the area to monitor the situation of the IDPs.

As of this report, further documentation and assessments are still being done by the CSWDO, in coordination with the barangay officials, to determine the updated number and current locations of the displaced population. The evacuation centers (ECs) that received the IDPs do not yet have assigned camp managers. Verification is also ongoing to identify whether any IDPs have been displaced to other areas.

PROTECTION ISSUES AND RESPONSES

ISSUES	RESPONSES	WAYS FORWARD
Threats to life, safety and security		
Displacement triggers trauma and stress; thus, there is a possible need for psychosocial support/psychological first aid to address the needs of those affected.	The Philippine Red Cross has conducted psychosocial support activities.	Continuous monitoring and referral to Health/PSS actors for further support; further referrals for specific management of more severe cases (if needed)
Access to food aid and nutrition		
IDPs are in need of basic sustenance in the locations where they evacuated.	The City LGU has carried out an initial distribution of food packs.	Continuous monitoring to ensure regular and adequate provision of food assistance to all IDPs.
Access to non-food items		

IDPs have expressed the need for banig (sleeping mat) due to lack of sufficient beddings in the ECs/host locations.		Advocate with humanitarian actors who may be able to provide non-food assistance for the IDPs' immediate needs.
Camp coordination and camp management		
There are no assigned camp managers in the ECs.		Follow up with the CSWDO regarding the plans to ensure proper camp coordination and camp management capacities within the ECs, particularly in case of prolonged displacement.
Some ECs (like Mainit Elementary School) lack proper ventilation, posing some risks to the health of the IDPs, especially young children and the elderly.		Follow up with the LGU and the CSWDO regarding possible/planned responses to address these needs; refer to other humanitarian partners as needed. Continue monitoring the protection situation in the ECs and referring urgent concerns, especially if return would not be feasible in the short term.
Access to water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities		
There are no toilets in the Multi-Purpose Hall in Sitio Ampokaw and the EC is far from the water source. Those at the Elementary School and the covered court are using the toilets of the nearby houses.		Follow up with the LGU and the CSWDO regarding possible/planned responses to address these needs. Refer to WASH Cluster actors currently operating/based in Iligan.

PERSONS OF CONCERN

No. of Fam	+/-	No. of Persons	+/-	Location (Origin)			Location (Current)			
				Province	Mun	Barangay	Province	Mun	Barangay	Exact Location
143	+/-	715	+/-	Lanao del Norte	Iligan City	Mainit	Lanao del Norte	Iligan City	Mainit	Sitio Ampokaw Multipurpose Hall, Brgy. Mainit covered court, and Mainit Elementary School
1	+/-	5	+/-	Lanao del Norte	Iligan City	Mainit	Lanao del Norte	Iligan City	Digkilaan	Red Cross Village

DURABLE SOLUTIONS (No returns yet)

No. of Fam	+/-	No. of Persons	+/-	Location (Displaced)			Location (Current)			Type (Please select one)		
				Province	Municipality	Barangay	Province	Municipality	Barangay	Return	Relocation	Local Integration

SOURCES: Barangay Chairperson, Barangay Mainit, Iligan City; Barangay Chairperson, Barangay Digkilaan, Iligan City; CSWDO, Iligan City

The IDP Protection Assessment Form (IDPPAR)

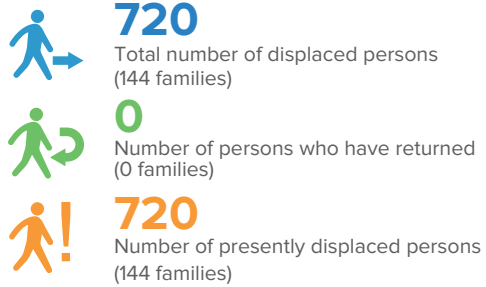
The IDP Protection Assessment Form aims to provide a starting point for information and analysis that can help humanitarian agencies, policy makers and other stakeholders concerning instances of forced displacement or solutions (repatriation, resettlement, integration). The number of people displaced/affected may differ from the number in need of humanitarian assistance. To the extent possible, the terminology used in the Dashboard reflects the *UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* and other sources of international law and practice. The information reported in the IDP Protection Assessment Forms has been received from members of the Protection Cluster across Mindanao. Consequently, unreported cases of forced displacement and solutions are not reflected. Updates will be provided as and when more information is received from members. Although efforts are made to verify the data, the Protection Cluster takes no responsibility for the incompleteness or inaccuracy of the information. At the end of every month, this data is compiled and distributed through the 'Protection Dashboard'. The information provided in this IDP Assessment Report does not necessarily reflect the views of UNHCR or any individual member of the Protection Cluster.

The Protection Cluster

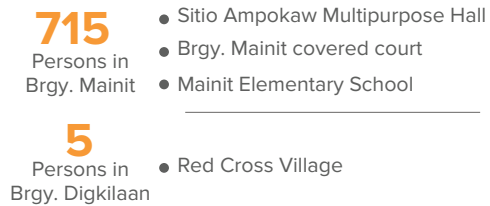
In the Philippines, the protection cluster has been established by the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) Circular No 5 series of 10 May 2007 (Institutionalizing Cluster Approach in Philippine Disaster System). The cluster approach is part of a global response aimed at providing more timely and consistent help to the internally displaced and other affected people in complex emergencies and disasters. The Protection Cluster in Mindanao meets in Cotabato, Iligan, Davao and other cities on a regular basis. Currently there are over 100 participating agencies including from the Government, State, Civil Society, national and international NGOs and agencies, as well as the United Nations. For more information, please visit the Protection Cluster website <http://www.protectioncluster.org/philippines/> or e-mail us at PHICOPRC@unhcr.org



KEY FIGURES



LIST OF EVACUATION CENTERS



LEGEND



LOCATION MAP

