

## INCIDENT BACKGROUND

Conflict and repeated displacements continue to affect thousands of individuals in the province of Maguindanao, in the newly established Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), particularly in the area of the “SPMS Box” (Salibu, Pagatin, Mamasapano and Shariff Aguak) and its peripheral communities. Some of the affected population had returned home not long ago, but were displaced again due to persistent security risks.

On 17 July 2019, approximately 2,470 individuals (494 families) in Barangay Bagong, Shariff Aguak municipality were forced to flee their homes and seek refuge in Sitio Mistah, Barangay Kuloy in the same municipality. The increasing presence of government security forces deployed in the interior communities of the SPMS Box, aggravated by the launch of mortar shelling, triggered fear of a possible armed encounter and of getting caught in the crossfire. The IDPs were able to return to their habitual places of residence a few days after the incident.

On 25 July 2019, residents of communities at the boundaries of the municipalities of Pikit (Cotabato province), Shariff Saydona Mustapha and Datu Salibu (Maguindanao province) were again constrained to flee upon the start of military operations, involving both aerial bombardment and ground assault, by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) against the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF). According to some reports, the nine (9) BIFF members who were reportedly killed in action allegedly included some minors.

## CURRENT SITUATION

As of this report, approximately 14,715 individuals (2,943 families) have been forcibly displaced in Pikit, Shariff Saydona Mustapha, and Datu Salibu. In Pikit municipality, four (4) barangays – Makasindeg, Kabasalan, Paidu Pulangi, and Punul – are currently hosting IDPs, based on the report of the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office.

Currently, the IDPs are affected by both armed conflict and natural disaster because their places of origin are in remote, low-lying areas that are often flooded as a result of continuous rainfall. They are apprehensive that their dwellings may be destroyed or damaged as a result of the ongoing hostilities, and have appealed to the parties to the conflict to take measures to protect civilian lives, properties, and livelihoods.

## PROTECTION ISSUES AND RESPONSE

ISSUES	RESPONSES	WAYS FORWARD
Threat to life, safety, and security		
On 25 July, total of eleven (11) civilian houses were reportedly hit by mortar shelling/aerial attacks in Sitio Butilen, Barangay Kabasalan, Pikit municipality, Cotabato province. One (1) of these houses was totally damaged, while the owners also suffered casualties: an elderly woman died, while her husband and 10-year old grandson sustained wounds and were immediately brought to the hospital for medical treatment.	Local authorities extended assistance to the two injured persons for their medical treatment.  The Commission on Human Rights (CHR) Region 12 has also conducted an investigation of the incident.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Continue monitoring of civilian protection issues for possible referral to appropriate agencies.</li><li>- Advocate with the security sector and the LGUs to strengthen measures to ensure the protection of civilians.</li></ul>
On 26 July, an unexploded ordnance (UXO) was discovered and reported by civilians in Sitio Didagen, Barangay Ganta, Shariff Saydona Mustapha.	The UXO was safely detonated by the authorities.	
Access to Shelter		
<p>Some IDPs have occupied open spaces along the main roads, where they have built makeshift shelters. These temporary structures do not adequately protect them against the heat and rain. Some of these locations are also submerged in water because of the continuous rainfall.</p> <p>There is a need for non-food items such as plastic tarpaulins, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, blankets, and</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Continue monitoring of the shelter conditions of IDPs, and advocate for minimum standards in setting up temporary shelter structures.</li><li>- Conduct a follow-up assessment of the needs of the displaced population, for possible provision</li></ul>

solar lamps for areas that do not have electricity.		of core relief items as needed.
<b>Access to Livelihood, Food aid and nutrition</b>		
<p>The food stocks brought by the IDPs when they fled their homes were only enough to feed them for a few days. If the displacement becomes protracted, additional food assistance will be needed, particularly since there is no clear information on how long the armed encounters would continue.</p> <p>Most of the IDPs are farmers and fisherfolk whose livelihood activities have been disrupted by the security incidents. Hence, they are currently unable to provide for the basic needs of their families.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Municipal local government unit (LGU) of Pikit has distributed 5 kilos of rice to each of the displaced families.</li> <li>- On 28 July, the Provincial LGU of Maguindanao distributed food and non-food items to 565 families affected by both flooding and conflict.</li> <li>- On 31 July, the Municipal LGU of Shariff Saydona Mustapha distributed food packs to 287 IDP families.</li> <li>- On 1 &amp; 2 August, the Bangsamoro Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (BDRRMC), through its Rapid Emergency Action on Disaster Incidence (READI), distributed food packs to 805 IDP families in Shariff Saydona Mustapha Municipality and 1,453 IDP families in Datu Salibu.</li> <li>- The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Region 12 has also conducted an assessment and stands ready to augment the provision of assistance if needed.</li> </ul>	Continue monitoring the food needs of IDPs. Advocate with the LGUs and other concerned agencies for the distribution of regular food rations to affected populations, including families hosted outside of evacuation centers.
<b>Access to Water and Sanitation</b>		
<p>-The IDPs have limited access to potable drinking water. In some communities in Shariff Saydona Mustapha, the community members avoid using water from the deep wells, because of fear that explosions from the airstrikes may have contaminated the water or affected its quality. The water trucks that sell water do not even reach remote communities where the IDPs are settled.</p> <p>- Some IDP locations/displacement sites lack toilets, prompting IDPs to defecate in streams, water sources, or other open areas.</p>	<p>The host communities currently share with the IDPs the water supply from the deep well and water pumps, as well as the available toilets.</p>	Continue monitoring the water and sanitation needs of IDPs, and advocate with concerned agencies for complementary responses.

## PERSONS OF CONCERN

No. of Fam	+/-	No. of Pers ons	+/-	Location (Origin)				Location (Current)				
				Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Province	Mun	Barangay	Sit io	Exact Location
63		315		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Penditen	Patawali	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi		Pandi EC
40		200		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Penditen	Kurungan	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi		Pandi EC
47		235		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Penditen	Mekam	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi		Pandi EC
53		265		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Penditen	Pagakatan	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi		Pandi EC
50		250		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Penditen	Binunuan	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi		Pandi EC
80		400		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi	Inugog	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi		Pandi EC
55		275		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi	Dabudi	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi		Pandi EC
58		290		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi	Proper	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi		Pandi EC
140		700		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pagatin/ Ganoy	Dansuli	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pagatin		Mahad Pagatin & Home-based
160		800		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pagatin/ Ganoy	Ambidaya	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pagatin		Mahad Pagatin & Home-based
93		465		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pagatin/ Ganoy	Migkawa	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pagatin		Mahad Pagatin & Home-based

77		385		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pagatin/ Ganoy	Matugiba	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pagatin		Mahad Pagatin & Home- based
73		365		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Damabalas	Ulangkaya	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Damabalas		Damabalas EC
93		465		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Damabalas	Proper	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Damabalas		Damabalas EC
180		900		Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Ganta	Pedatad & Ulangkaya	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi		Pandi EC
137		685		Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Ganta	Ulangkaya	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Damabalas		Damabalas EC
16		80		Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Dasawao		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Damabalas		Damabalas EC
38		190		Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Bakat		Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Damabalas		Damabalas EC
118		590		Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Dasawao	Dasawao 3	Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Dasawao		Dasawao School Building (Non- functional)
141		705		Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Dasawao	Dasawao 4	Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Dasawao		Dasawao School Building (Non- functional)
236		1,180		Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Ganta	Ulangkaya	Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Ganta		Ganta DCC compound
303		1,515		Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Ganta	Didagen	Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Ganta		Ganta Health Center compound
86		430		Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Bakat	Palao	Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Bakat		Kalsada Tent
145		725		North Cotabato	Pikit	Kabasalan	Butilen	North Cotabato	Pikit	Kabasalan		Kabasalan ES
104		520		North Cotabato	Pikit	Kabasalan	Butilen	North Cotabato	Pikit	Kabasalan		Sitio Leong Mosque
229		1,145		North Cotabato	Pikit	Kabasalan	Butilen	North Cotabato	Pikit	Kabasalan		Sitio Tuka open spaces
128		640		North Cotabato	Pikit	Kabasalan	Butilen	North Cotabato	Pikit	Macasend eg		Home-based

Source: DROMIC Report from the MSS-Maguindanao, Situation Report from the MDRRMO-Datu Salibu, Rapid Assessment Report of ACTED

## DURABLE SOLUTIONS

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

## SOURCES:

Ministry of Social Services – Maguindanao  
Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council – Datu Salibu, Maguindanao  
Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council – Pikit, Cotabato  
Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office – Pikit, Cotabato  
Commission on Human Rights – Region 12  
Barangay local government unit – Brgy. Makasindag, Pikit, Cotabato  
ACTED in the Philippines  
Community and Family Services International (CFSI)  
Magungaya Mindanao Inc. (MMI)  
Tiyakap Kalilintad Inc. (TKI)

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](mailto:PHICOPRC@unhcr.org)



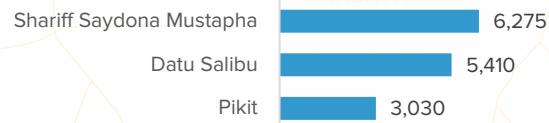
## KEY FIGURES

Total number of displaced population

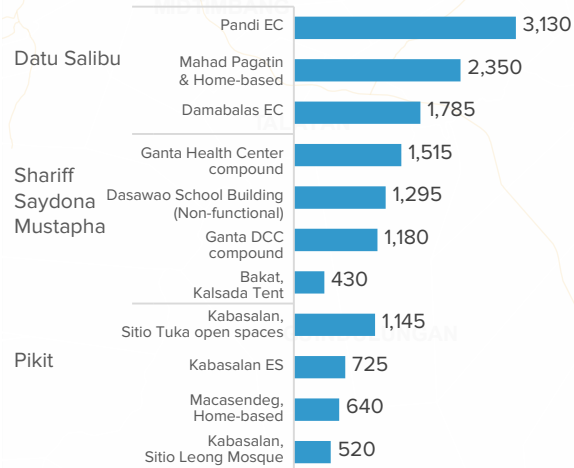

**2,943** Families

**14,715** Individuals









Displaced individuals by place of origin



Current location of displaced population



## LEGEND

-  Conflict
-  Provincial boundary
-  Municipal boundary
-  Barangay boundary
-  Displaced individuals
-  Returned individuals
-  Presently displaced individuals
-  Evacuation center

## LOCATION MAP

