

INCIDENT BACKGROUND

On 23 October 2019 a joint military and police operation was carried out against an alleged sub-commander of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) in Midsayap, Cotabato province.

The incident resulted in displacement of 293 families, most of whom had been previously affected by a clan feud in April 2019 in the same area.

Seven (7) youths were reportedly killed in the course of the manhunt. They were initially tagged as being associated with the armed group, but their relatives claimed that they were only conducting farming activities and were also part of the IDP population who were displaced in April.

CURRENT SITUATION

As of this report, the 293 displaced families are currently staying in the barangay hall, covered court, and along the streets of Purok Mahogany (near the barangay hall) in Barangay Tumbras.

The Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) of Midsayap conducted a Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) session for the families and relatives of the casualties.

IDPs were provided with immediate food assistance from the LGU. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Region 12 has also conducted an assessment, following a request for food packs, non-food items and financial assistance for the victims' families.

PROTECTION ISSUES AND RESPONSE

ISSUES	RESPONSES	WAYS FORWARD
Threats to life, safety, and security		
Seven (7) youth were killed during the operation. Four (4) of them were identified as minors.	The Commission on Human Rights (CHR) Region 12 has conducted an initial investigation. The MSWDO of Midsayap is also monitoring the situation of IDPs.	Continue monitoring the conditions of IDPs in the area, and follow up on the request for financial assistance for the victims' families.
Children associated with armed forces and armed groups		
The seven (7) youth killed during the operation were allegedly tagged as "child warriors" from an extremist BIFF faction.	CHR Region 12 has conducted an initial investigation on these claims.	Follow up on in-depth investigation and provision of legal assistance as needed.
Shelter		
IDPs lack proper shelter facilities, particularly for a prolonged stay. They are currently using community structures, and some have put up tents.	The MSWDO has requested DSWD Region 12 to provide sleeping kits and other non-food items.	Follow up on the distribution of relief items, and continue monitoring the situation of IDPs.
Food aid and nutrition		
Food assistance is badly needed, because IDPs' livelihood has been disrupted due to their displacement.	The MSWDO has already requested DSWD Region 12 to provide food packs.	Follow-up on the said request for an immediate response; continue monitoring the situation to ensure food security, especially in case of protracted displacement.

Health		
Children are vulnerable to illness because of the inadequate shelter conditions, where they are exposed to the elements.	LGU Midsayap has already conducted an assessment and will provide medicines to the affected population, especially the children.	Follow up with local authorities and health actors to ensure timely provision of medical needs. Continue monitoring the situation to ensure timely referral of identified concerns.

PERSONS OF CONCERN

No. of Fam	+/-	No. of Persons	+/-	Location (Origin)				Location (Current)				
				Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Exact Location
293		1,465		Cotabato	Midsayap	Tumbras	Purok Narra, Mangga	Cotabato	Midsayap	Tumbras	Purok Mahogany	Brgy hall, covered court,

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

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

SOURCES

Barangay LGU (BLGU) of Tumbras
 MSWDO Midsayap
 IDPs
 Commission on Human Rights (CHR) Region XII



The IDP Protection Assessment Form

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). Given the fact that Mindanao did not witness major emergencies since Marawi siege, the protection cluster was not convened since mid-2017. Instead a protection working group was established in April 2019 to attend to protection needs of displaced families in BARMM

Protection Working Group for Bangsamoro Autonomous region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)

In April 2019, PWG for BARMM was established under the leadership of Ministry of Social Services, co-led by UNHCR. The Protection Working Group (PWG), based in Cotabato City, is being convened to support the provision of protection interventions and services to these disaster- and conflict-affected communities. The main objectives of BARMM PWG is to strengthen coordination among relevant actors with a protection role (from regional down to municipal and community level) in order to: (a) ensure timely prevention of and response to protection issues in the BARMM region; and (b) facilitate timely information-sharing among these actors, in support of effective planning and implementation. The PWG meets every 2 months with members of Government agencies with protection roles, Relevant LGUs, UN agencies, Local and international NGOs& CSOs.

For more information, please visit the Protection Cluster website <http://www.protectioncluster.org/philippines/> or e-mail us at PHICOPRC@unhcr.org

KEY FIGURES

Total number of displaced population



293 Families



1,465 Individuals

Current location of displaced population



Displaced families are temporarily staying in the barangay hall, covered court, and along the streets of Purok Mahogany (near the barangay hall) in Barangay Tumbras.

LEGEND

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

LOCATION MAP

