

# IDP PROTECTION ASSESSMENT REPORT (IDPPAR)

Forced displacement in Ampatuan Municipality due to Armed Conflict

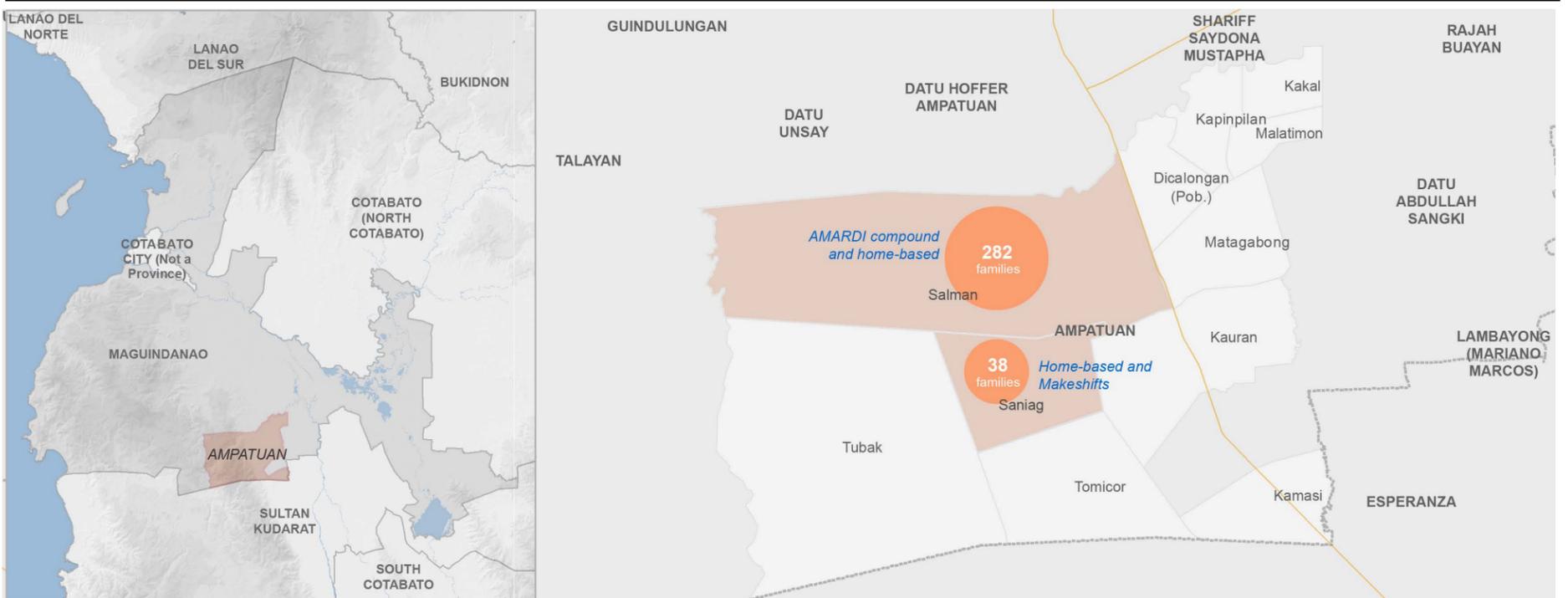
2020



UNHCR exists to protect and assist everyone who has been affected by forced displacement in Mindanao. To coordinate assistance to IDPs, we use a cluster approach. UNHCR works closely with the government and Mindanao Humanitarian Team to identify needs of IDPs in areas of assistance, such as shelter, health care, shelter and protection. We assume a coordination and operational delivery role in IDP situations to ensure protection is central to our work in order to prevent further displacement.

IDPPAR no. 04, Issue no. 02, 2020 | 24 July 2020

<b>DATE OF DISPLACEMENT</b> # 02/03/2020	<b>TIME OF DISPLACEMENT:</b> _____	<b>GPS COORDINATES (If available):</b> _____
<b>BARANGAY:</b> Saniag _____	<b>MUNICIPALITY:</b> Ampatuan _____	<b>PROVINCE:</b> Maguindanao _____
<b>TYPE OF DISPLACEMENT:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> NEW DISPLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RECURRING DISPLACEMENT   Please refer to IDPPAR no. 04, Issue no. 01		
<b>REASON FOR DISPLACEMENT</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> NATURAL DISASTER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARMED CONFLICT <input type="checkbox"/> VIOLENCE PLEASE SPECIFY: AFP vs unidentified Non-State Armed Group	
Issue No 04	Update No 01	Date of assessment: 8 July 2020



## INCIDENT BACKGROUND

Ampatuan is frequently affected by conflict between the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). In February, a number of IDPs has been displaced due to the pursuit operation of the military against the non-state armed group in the remote areas of the Ampatuan Municipality, affecting barangay Saniag and Salman.

On 2 March 2020, over 200 families from Sitio Ugapok, Barangay Salman, were forced to flee their homes due to firefights between the warring parties. On 17 March 2020, the displaced families were advised by the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Officer (MDRRMO) to return to their respective residences, particularly those IDPs who have occupied a private property known as AMARDI compound. Despite this advice, the IDPs opted to stay because of the alleged presence of unidentified armed men and uncertainties on the security situation in their places of origin. There were reported cases of looting and strafing incidences committed by an unidentified group against civilians.

## CURRENT SITUATION

Majority of the displaced families have already returned home but some families still cannot access their farmland due to insecurities. In Barangay Saniag, there are 38 families (190 individuals) who are still displaced, some of whom are currently staying with relatives and some have built makeshift shelters. In Barangay Salman, there are 282 families (1,410 individuals) who also remained with their relatives and in their makeshift shelters, while others have occupied AMARDI compound.

## INCIDENT KEY FIGURES



### Families

320 number of families are still displaced and currently hosted in 1 evacuation center and others are home based.



### Persons

1,600 number of persons are still displaced in Barangay Saniag and Barangay Salman



### Missing

(No available data)



### Damaged Houses

(No available data)



### In need of shelter

(No available data)



### Children

(No available data)



### Civilian death

A total number of 3 persons were killed during the armed conflict, one child and 2 pregnant women.



### Civilians Injured

(No available data)



### Vulnerable Persons

(No available data)



## PROTECTION ISSUES AND RESPONSE

### I. THREAT TO LIFE, SAFETY AND SECURITY

Protection assessment considers the various threats to life, safety and security of displaced persons stemming from crime, violence, armed conflict or nature disaster

#	ISSUES	RESPONSE	IDENTIFIED NEEDS AND REMAINING GAPS
1.	<p>Some of the IDPs are taking the risk to visit their places of origin for food supply. Reportedly, some IDPs from Sitio Ugapok, Barangay Salman went back to their farmlands for food and to harvest what are left of their crops. However, they were allegedly attached, and their farm animals were reportedly stolen by unidentified armed group.</p> <p>In addition, based on monitoring activities with IDPs, there are situations where civilians are being used as human shields by an unidentified armed group against military troops.</p> <p>With these, most of the IDPs are still not confident to return to their habitual residences due to feeling of insecurity. The displacement site is also prone to flash floods.</p>	The AFP, in coordination with the barangay, is closely monitoring the situation.	<p>A "go and see" visit in IDPs' places of origin, as represented by different stakeholders, should be conducted to provide the IDPs with the opportunity to assess the damage and security conditions of the said areas prior to the eventual return of the affected families.</p> <p>Proper reporting mechanism and information sharing system are needed since the area has poor network.</p>

### II. SHELTER

Shelter: meet the need for roofing and other materials from local sources if possible

#	ISSUES	RESPONSE	IDENTIFIED NEEDS AND REMAINING GAPS
2.	There were IDPs from the AMARDI compound who have moved to their relatives due to congestion however, the conditions in their host families are not any better since most of the host families accommodated two to three IDP families.	UNHCR, with the support from its project partners, MMI and CFSI distributed core relief items, including plastic tarpaulins last March 2020.	IDPs need support to improve their temporary shelters while return is not yet feasible due to the security situation
3.	There were IDPs from the AMARDI compound who have moved to their relatives due to congestion however, the conditions in their host families are not any better since most of the host families accommodated two to three IDP families		

### III. FOOD AND NUTRITION

Ensure that IDPs receive a minimum basic food ration.

#	ISSUES	RESPONSE	IDENTIFIED NEEDS AND REMAINING GAPS
4.	There is an expressed need for food since the supplies coming from the barangay and municipal LGUs are not sustained.	MLGU and MSSD Maguindanao distributed relief goods to the displaced families starting at the onset of their displacement. As of reporting, three distribution activities have taken place.	Regular and equitable food aid

### IV. WASH

Ensure sanitary facilities such as showers, toilets and washing areas are in place.

#	ISSUES	RESPONSE	IDENTIFIED NEEDS AND REMAINING GAPS
5.	<p>There is only one (1) functional communal latrine (without lock) in the displacement site. Some resort to defecation in open areas.</p> <p>Women and girls are at risk of GBV-related incidents due to absence of washing and bathing cubicle in the evacuation center</p>		<p>Provision of separate latrines for men and women.</p> <p>Washing and bathing cubicles are needed to avoid prevalence of GBV-related incidents and other forms of sexual abuse.</p>
6.	There are only two (2) water sources in the area, one (1) dug well and one (1) handpump which could not accommodate all IDPs. These sources were also tested for water quality		Conduct of water testing to determine water quality and potability in order to prevent occurrence of any water-borne diseases.

## V. EDUCATION

Particular attention must be placed on the risks faced by adolescent girls, such as lack of access to education

#	ISSUES	RESPONSE	IDENTIFIED NEEDS AND REMAINING GAPS
7.	<p>Education of children is very likely to be affected should IDPs stay longer in the displacement site. As expressed by the IDPs, since their livelihood activities have been disrupted, they may not have the financial resources to send their kids to school, especially those who are attending secondary and tertiary level education.</p> <p>The likelihood of children not being able to enroll in the coming 2020-2021 academic year is high.</p>	No response yet.	There is a need to determine the number of school age children and ensure they have access to education this coming school year.

## VI. HLP (HOUSING, LAND AND PROPERTY)

Report any HLP related issues

#	ISSUES	RESPONSE	IDENTIFIED NEEDS AND REMAINING GAPS
8	<p>Most of the IDPs have left their belongings due to emergency evacuation.</p> <p>There were also reported cases of damaged houses allegedly hit by gunshots during the fighting of the warring parties. Farm animals were also reportedly stolen by unidentified groups.</p>	Protection actors continue to monitor the situation of the IDPs. Issues gathered from these monitoring activities are reported and referred to the relevant agencies for appropriate response.	Livelihood assistance and family return package including shelter assistance should be provided once return to places of origin is scheduled

## VII. HEALTH

Ensure that IDPs have access to health facilities.

#	ISSUES	RESPONSE	IDENTIFIED NEEDS AND REMAINING GAPS
9	<p>Most of the IDPs are practicing traditional means of treating illnesses because of the limited access to health services. In addition, they are financially incapable to buy medicines. There are also reported cases of diarrhea particularly among children.</p> <p>As reported by IDPs, health workers do not regularly conduct visits in the displacement sites</p>	<p>The Medical Team is visiting the evacuation center for medical consultation and provision of medicines to sick children.</p> <p>Protection actors continue to monitor the situation of the IDPs. Issues gathered from these monitoring activities are reported and referred to the relevant agencies for appropriate response.</p>	Regular medical mission of the Medical Team ensuring access of IDPs to free medical consultation and medicines especially the vulnerable and sick persons LGUs to facilitate access of IDPs to available health facilities and services in their respective barangay/ municipality.

## VIII. VULNERABLE PERSONS

Particular attention should be given to persons with specific needs and vulnerable groups.

#	ISSUES	RESPONSE	IDENTIFIED NEEDS AND REMAINING GAPS
10	There are no available data on persons with specific needs (PWSN).		Sector specific provision to ensure that all persons of concerns (POCs) are assisted, especially the PWSN
11	Most of the IDPs do not have proper sleeping materials.	Provision of sleeping mats by UNHCR and CFSI	Provision of additional sleeping mats, considering the number of individuals per family

## IX. CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRIs)

Particular attention should be given to vulnerable persons in need of core relief items

#	ISSUES	RESPONSE	IDENTIFIED NEEDS AND REMAINING GAPS
12	<p>Need for hygiene kits and kitchen utensils</p> <p>Maternal kits to pregnant women</p>	Provision of hygiene kits by UNHCR through CFSI	Replenishment of provided hygiene kits since it was already used

## PERSONS OF CONCERN (Breakdown by location)

Location (Origin)				Location (Current)								
No. of Fam	+/-	No. of Persons	+/-	Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Exact Location
38		190		Maguindanao	Ampatuan	Saniag		Maguindanao	Ampatuan	Saniag		Homebased/Makeshifts
282		1410		Maguindanao	Ampatuan	Salman	Lanting	Maguindanao	Ampatuan	Salman		AMARDI compound/and homebased

NEEDS ANALYSIS	Remarks
<b>Protection</b>	<p>IDPs must be consulted regarding their return to their places of origin. A "Go-and-See" visit in the places of origin as represented by different stakeholders must be conducted to provide IDPs the opportunity to assess the damage and security conditions in their places of origin.</p> <p>There are no visible signages of referral pathways as to when and where to report cases of violence. IDPs are still in need of assistance particularly in terms of safety and security, and livelihood.</p>
<b>Food</b>	<p>Regular ration of food is recommended while the IDPs are still in the evacuation center, spontaneous settlements and host families. Because of the community lockdown, the IDP families can't find decent source of living to address their necessities. A regular support for food from the BLGU, MLGU and MSSD-Maguindanao is recommended.</p>
<b>Shelter</b>	<p>Displacement in the municipality is recurring and the LGU is recommended to draft a comprehensive plan on emergency preparedness and response as well as to identify safe spaces for massive evacuation.</p> <p>There is expressed need to help the IDPs improve their current living condition in the evacuation center.</p>
<b>WASH</b>	<p>WASH facilities are also among the urgent needs of the IDPs, as well as replenishment of their hygiene supplies.</p>
<b>EDUCATION</b>	<p>Consider provision of temporary learning centers for children and facilitate their access to education given the current schooling modalities.</p>
<b>HLP</b>	<p>A go and see visit activity prior to actual return of IDPs to determine the pertinent needs and gaps with regard to housing, land and property. This will ensure that appropriate support for rehabilitation and recovery are identified and provided to help the IDPs return to normalcy.</p>
<b>HEALTH</b>	<p>Strengthening of the health program in the displacement sites for the prevention and response to health issues, especially COVID-19.</p>
<b>CORE RELIEF ITEMS</b>	<p>Provision of the needed core relief items such as hygiene kits, maternal kits, and kitchen utensils.</p>
<b>GBV</b>	<p>There are reported cases of GVB-related incidents and early marriages. There are also cases of resolved domestic violence putting women and girls to further protection risks. There is a need to strengthen the advocacy on VAWC and establishment of GBV Referral Pathway at the displacement sites.</p>
<b>Child Protection</b>	<p>Huge percentage of children will not be able to access education this coming school year due to prolonged displacement and their parents cannot afford to send them to school due to lack of livelihood and source of income.</p>
<b>Security</b>	<p>The presence of armed group in the nearby mountainous areas are still existing. Some IDPs are not confident in staying at nighttime in their places of origin.</p>

## IDP ASSESSMENT REPORT

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.

## 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.

## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

UNHCR works in partnership with government entities, INGOs, NGOs, CSOs, and UN Agencies, and other organizations. Its primary role is to share information on protection risks and needs and to facilitate coordinated intervention among the various actors involved in IDP protection. UNHCR has project partnership with CFSI, CHR, ACCORD, MMI, KI, TKI, ACTED and IRDT covering Mindanao island including BARMM region. In addition to its project partnership, UNHCR works closely with local authorities and Mindanao Humanitarian Actors including: UNICEF | IOM | OCHA | UNDP | UNFPA | UNHABITAT | WFP | WHO | OXFAM | ACTION AGAINST HUNGER | CARE | UNWOMEN | ICRC | SAVE THE CHILDREN | KFPDI | PRC

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)

# 2020



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