

### INCIDENT BACKGROUND

There has been massive and recurrent displacement affecting the interior areas of SPMS box (Salibu, Pagatin, Mamasapano and Shariff Aguak) as a result of armed clashes and military operations against a DAESH-inspired Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF). The SPMS box has been the center of conflict between the government troops and the BIFF for several years. The seemingly permanent hostilities have caused repeated and massive displacement affecting the same communities and populations.

On 27 February 2019, a high-ranking officer of the BIFF was gunned down in Barangay Sambulawan, Datu Salibu Municipality. On the following day, the militaries on board a private vehicle were ambushed in Barangay Sambulawan, Datu Salibu Municipality, two (2) were killed and the other two (2) have sustained injuries. Artilleries were fired in the areas of encampment of the BIFF, which has resulted to forcible displacement of civilians.

On 2 March 2019, the BIFF attacked military detachment in the boundary areas of Barangay Nabundas, Shariff Saydona Mustapha and Barangay Kuloy, Shariff Aguak. Militaries has then conducted air and artilleries shelling in areas believed to be encampment of BIFF. Another harassment of military detachment was reported on 7 March 2019 in Barangay Tuka, Mamasapano.

On 11 March 2019, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) have launched surgical air, artillery and ground operations. Armed clashes between the warring parties has ensued on 12 March 2019 in Barangay Inaladan, Shariff Saydona Mustapha when the militaries have conducted a combat clearing operations supported with air and artillery fires.

### CURRENT SITUATION

Based on the report provided by the provincial office of the Ministry of Social Services of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, **there are 6,565 families (32,825 persons) forcibly displaced from their home as of 13 March 2019.** The number of displaced persons continued to rise as military operations continue and the BIFF is anticipated to retaliate. The displaced families have sought refuge in neighboring communities and are distributed in designated evacuation sites, such as schools, madrasahs, barangay hall and other community structures. Others are in host families who share dwellings with their relatives.

There are displacement sites that were not reached by the team for a protection monitoring for security reasons.

### PROTECTION ISSUES AND RESPONSE

ISSUES	RESPONSES	WAYS FORWARD
<b>Threat to life, safety, and security</b>		
There are two (2) civilians hit by stray bullets, a 12-year old boy in Datu Salibu Municipality and a 19-year old man in Mamasapano Municipality.  Also, there is one (1) semi-concrete house in Barangay Bagong Upam, Shariff Aguak that was hit by mortars due to the on-going conflict.	The injured civilians were immediately rushed to the hospital for medical treatment. The ICRC is following up the case of a minor needing support for his medication at a hospital in Cotabato City.	Continue monitoring of civilian protection issues for possible referral to appropriate agencies (RHRC/ CHR 12 for investigation of alleged violations; Ministry of Health for medical aid of injured civilians).
There is on-going movement of people to safer locations because of fear that they may get cross fired. Also, the aircraft flying overhead and mortar shelling create fear and reluctance to return. Though there are some who took the risks to access their farmland despite of insecurities.		Advocate with the security sector and the LGUs to strengthen measures to ensure the protection of civilians
There is development of tensions in some areas because of suspicions. Civilians are afraid being tagged by the BIFF as informant of militaries. Indeed, a son of a known Commander was brutally murdered, he was allegedly suspected as military informant.		

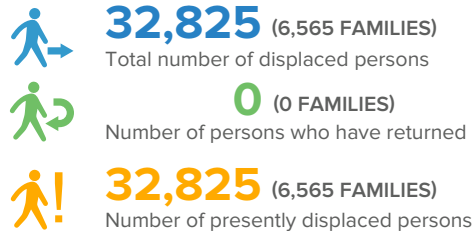
<b>Shelter</b>				
Some IDPs have occupied schools, madrasahs and barangay halls that served as evacuation centers. Others have opted to occupy open spaces rather than share spaces in congested evacuation centers. They built makeshifts while their belongings are loaded onto carts camping alongside the roads which for them are safe and can easily move out if necessary.				Continue monitoring of the shelter condition of IDPs and advocate for a minimum standards in setting up temporary shelter structure for IDPs.
<b>Food aid and nutrition</b>				
The IDPs are in need of food aid. The food stock they brought is insufficient if the displacement situation is prolonged. Most are farmers whose farming activities have been affected by the dry spell as a result of El Nino.	The Humanitarian Emergency Action and Response Team of the BARMM and the Provincial LGU of Maguindanao has distributed rice to the affected populations.			Continue monitoring of the food need 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>Water and sanitation</b>				
The available source of water is not safe for drinking. It is only used for cooking, washing and laundry. IDPs bought water from a water trucks for their drinking.	The LGU is Shariff Aguak provides regular supply of water to IDPs in Barangay Kuloy.			Continue monitoring of the WASH needs of IDPs such potable drinking water and latrines.
There is lack of latrines in evacuation centers which will compel the IDPs for an open defaecation.				
<b>Health</b>				
The IDPs are in need of medicines for common ailments such as fever and cough especially for children.	The Integrated Public Health Office (IPHO) Maguindanao has conducted medical mission in some displacement sites.			Refer the issue with the relevant agencies for the supply of medicines and regular visits of health workers in displacement sites.
<b>Education</b>				
Schooling of children have been disrupted because of the conflict. Schools are used as evacuation centers though classes will soon end for the current school year. Also, parents are reluctant to send their kids to school.				Refer the issue to the Ministry of Education for appropriate actions.
<b>Non Food Items (NFIs)</b>				
IDPs are needing non-food items (NFIs) such as mosquito nets, mattress, kitchen sets, tarpaulins, and hygiene kits including water storage, pail and dipper.				UNHCR to provide the NFI needs of the IDPs for a targeted populations.  Lobby with other agencies to provide the other NFI needs of the IDPs.

## PERSONS OF CONCERN

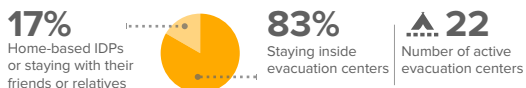
No. of Fam	+/-	No. of Persons	+/-	Location (Origin)				Location (Current)				
				Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Exact Location
215		1075	x	Maguindanao	Shariff Aguak	Tina		Maguindanao	Mamasapano	Libutan		Libutan Elem. School
283		1415	x	Maguindanao	Shariff Aguak	Lapok		Maguindanao	Shariff Aguak	Lapok		Lapok Elem. School
155		775	x	Maguindanao	Shariff Aguak	Lapok		Maguindanao	Shariff Aguak	Tapikan		Tapikan Primary School
176		880	x	Maguindanao	Shariff Aguak	Malingao		Maguindanao	Shariff Aguak	Tapikan		Tapikan Madrasah
146		730	x	Maguindanao	Shariff Aguak	Malingao		Maguindanao	Shariff Aguak	Tapikan		Tapikan Primary School
494		2470	x	Maguindanao	Shariff Aguak	Bagong Upam		Maguindanao	Shariff Aguak	Kuloy		Sitio Patra Compound
213		1065	x	Maguindanao	Shariff Aguak	Bagong Upam		Maguindanao	Datu Unsay	Meta		Old Primary School
30		150	x	Maguindanao	Datu Salibu	Pandi		Maguindanao	Datu Piang	Magaslong		Multi-Purpose Hall
129		645	x	Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Pikeg		Maguindanao	Datu Saudi Ampatuan	Kitango		Mahadinie Madrasah
16		80	x	Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Pikeg		Maguindanao	Datu Saudi Ampatuan	Kitango		Markaz
20		100	x	Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona Mustapha	Pikeg		Maguindanao	Datu Saudi Ampatuan	Kitango		Kitango Elem. School
533		2665	x	Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona	Pusao,		Maguindanao	Shariff Saydona	Duguengen		Datu Gumbay



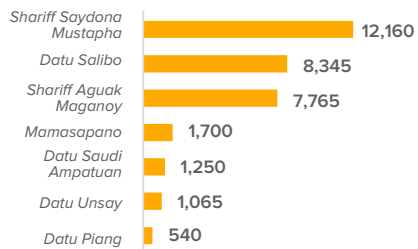
**KEY FIGURES**



**IDPs PER LOCATION OF DISPLACEMENT**



**IDPs PER HOST MUNICIPALITY**



**LEGEND**



**LOCATION MAP**

