



KEY POINTS

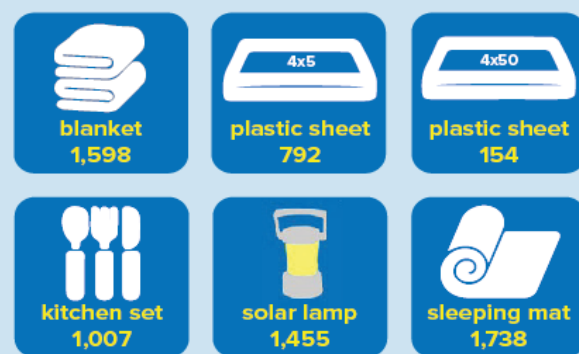
- In January 2019, UNHCR and government partner ARMM-Humanitarian Emergency Action Response Team (ARMM-HEART) distributed Core Relief Items (CRIs) to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao. These IDPs fled their homes after being threatened for voting 'yes' to the Bangsamoro Organic Law when the plebiscite was conducted.
- In February 2019, UNHCR distributed CRIs to IDPs who fled their places of origin due to military operations following attacks Jolo Cathedral. The distribution of CRRs was carried out by UNHCR Project Partner, the Integrated Resource Development for Tri-People (IRDT) and the Local Government Unit of Patikul.
- In March 2019, CRIs were distributed to IDPs in Datu Unsay, Maguindanao province. CRIs were also distributed to IDPs in Tubaran and Pagayawan, Lanao del Sur province. Displacement was caused due to military operations against members of Islamic State Ranao. UNHCR partner, CFSI, supported the distributions in both municipalities.



CRISIS BACKGROUND: *Several incidents of military operations with airstrikes and mortar shelling in pursuit of lawless elements have resulted to sporadic displacements of civilians residing in the different municipalities of Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur and Sulu provinces.*

KEY DIGITS

TOTAL CRIs DISTRIBUTED for this period



TOTAL BENEFICIARIES REACHED



PARTNER IN FOCUS

Community and Family Services International (CFSI) is a humanitarian organization committed to peace and social development, with a particular interest in the psychosocial dimension. The purpose of CFSI is rebuilding lives. Based in the Philippines, CFSI works internationally, primarily but not exclusively in the Asia and Pacific Region.

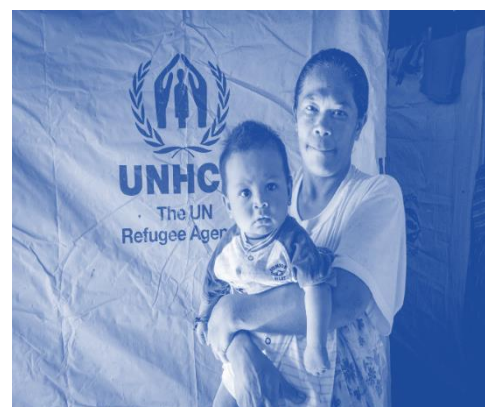
Established in 1981, CFSI has worked closely with the international community as well as national and local authorities responsible for uprooted persons in the Philippines, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Myanmar (Burma), Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Timor-Leste (East Timor) and Papua New Guinea. In addition, CFSI has carried out special training efforts in various parts of the world for humanitarian workers, social service personnel, and human rights specialists.

CFSI has professionals from different countries who represent a broad range of disciplines, ethnolinguistic groups, and religions. Whilst celebrating their diversity, Staff Members are united by a commitment to peace, human rights, humanitarian principles, participatory processes, empowerment, and integrity as individuals and as an organization. Staff Members work hand-in-hand with large numbers of volunteers – most of whom are based in the communities in which CFSI operates.



GAPS AND CHALLENGES

- Access and safety are the key challenges in some parts of the Mindanao as well as heavy logistical planning along with funding constraints. Security restrictions in areas where CRI distribution will be conducted can limit distribution activities;
- Poor infrastructure and lack of access to some roads to distribution points also present a challenge, especially during rainy periods. Roads could get muddy and big trucks may not be able to traverse these unpaved roads.
- There is no central agency that coordinates the distribution of NFIs/CRIs in beneficiary areas, which results to the duplication of items distributed. In some instances, items for delivery which are already loaded in the trucks had to be delivered back to the warehouse, which then results to double handling and incurring additional labour costs.
- There was a limited stock of 4x5m plastic sheets in the warehouse. In order to meet the needs of IDPs in evacuation centers, 4x50m tarpaulins were cut and divided among 10 families.



CRISIS BACKGROUND:

In Mindanao, internal displacement is triggered by armed conflict, crime, violence and natural disasters. Based on displacement data from 2013-2018, an average of 216,000 IDPs are displaced each year in Mindanao. In 2018, 212,602 persons (43,424 families) were displaced in Mindanao due to armed conflict and crime and violence. Out of this number, UNHCR provided core relief items to 61,670 individuals (12,334 IDPs families). Core relief items comprising of plastic sheets, solar lanterns, blankets and others provide IDPs with much-needed basic household items during displacement, whether in evacuation centers or with host families. Distribution of CRIs is an effective tool to provide protection by presence, and ensure continued monitoring and reporting of protection concerns especially in remote and difficult-to-access locations.

UNHCR will continue to provide CRIs for new displacement as well as for those in protracted displacement who continue to face protection risks. UNHCR will leverage with other partners some operational resources to reach IDPs who are considered highly at risk and those with specific needs, including women, children or families headed by elderly persons. All distributions will be carried out in coordination and partnership with the local government units, and with partner humanitarian NGOs where feasible.

For more information, please visit the Protection Cluster website

<http://www.protectionclusterphilippines.org> or e-mail us at PHICOPRC@unhcr.org

CRI RESPONSE

January-March 2019



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Philippines

CRI DISTRIBUTIONS

PERIOD	PROVINCE	MUNICIPALITY	ITEM	QTY
Jan-2019	Maguindanao	Datu Odin Sinsuat	Plastic sheet 4x5m	61
			Sleeping mat	61
			Kitchen set	61
			Fleece blanket	122
			Solar lamp	61
			Maguindanao TOTAL	366
Feb-2019	Sulu	Patikul	Plastic sheet 4x5m	731
			Plastic sheet 4x50m	10
			Fleece blankets	1,462
			Sleeping mat	1,462
			Kitchen set	731
			Sulu TOTAL	4,396
Mar-2019	Lanao del Sur	Pagayawan	Plastic sheet 4x50m	40
			Solar lamp	398
		Tubaran	Plastic sheet 4x50m	79
			Solar lamp	781
	Marawi City	Plastic sheet 4x50m	3	
		Fleece blankets	14	
	Lanao del Sur TOTAL		1,315	
	Maguindanao	Datu Unsay	Solar lamp	215
			Kitchen set	215
			Sleeping mat	215
Plastic sheet 4x50m			22	
Maguindanao TOTAL		667		
GRAND TOTAL		6,744		

* This document uses ARMM to refer to the region, given that the Bangsamoro Organic Law creating the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) was deemed ratified via plebiscite on 25 January 2019, while the official turnover of leadership to the new BARMM officials was held on February 26.

