

INCIDENT BACKGROUND

A firefight erupted at around 09:20 am on 28 July 2019 in Barangay Kuya, South Upi Municipality due to a longstanding dispute between private parties. Residents of Sities (sub-villages) Walew, Ideng, Furo Wagey, and Dakeluan of the said barangay, who were tending their farmlands at that time, immediately fled when they heard gunfire and sought refuge at the barangay hall.

The fighting is reportedly linked to conflicting land claims and the killing of a resident of Barangay Kuya in December 2016. Previous efforts to settle the dispute, including payment of “blood money” in accordance with traditional practices, failed to resolve the issue fully. A criminal case for murder remained pending, and a recent attempt to serve a warrant of arrest upon the alleged assailants resulted in the exchange of gunfire.

CURRENT SITUATION

Approximately 560 individuals (112 families), who are indigenous people from the Teduray tribe, remain displaced due to the incident as of this report. Most of them are temporarily staying at the compound of the barangay hall, occupying multi-purpose structures and kiosks. Others are at the chapel, while some have sought refuge with host families.

The affected population faces continued uncertainty about the security situation. Further displacement occurred on the evening of 6 August, when some residents of the same village fled following alleged sightings of armed men in the area. This triggered rumors that an attack on the village is imminent. However, the tensions later subsided, and those who had evacuated during this subsequent incident were able to return home shortly thereafter.

PROTECTION ISSUES AND RESPONSE

ISSUES	RESPONSES	WAYS FORWARD
Threat to life, safety, and security		
<p>Most of the IDPs depend on farming as their main source of livelihood, which has now been disrupted. Since it is now harvest time, some are taking risks to visit their farms and harvest crops despite fear for their safety. To address this, State security forces have facilitated a one-week window (which started on 1 August) during which they can go to their farms for harvesting. However, the IDPs expressed that this would not be enough because other crops are still due to be harvested at a later time. They have appealed to the security sector, with support from the barangay officials, for an extension of this measure.</p>	<p>The members of the Barangay Peace and Order Council have convened to facilitate a dialogue with the affected population. Barangay officials have also advocated the needs of the IDPs to other authorities concerned, for appropriate action.</p>	<p>Continue monitoring of protection issues for possible referral to appropriate agencies.</p>
<p>A number of families in Sitio Selaklak, Barangay Kuya were allegedly threatened by a group of armed men that their lands would be confiscated/occupied if they evacuated from the community. Thus, while fearing for their safety, these affected families are also apprehensive that they might lose access to their land.</p>		
Shelter		
<p>The IDPs are currently being accommodated in multi-purpose structures at the grounds of barangay hall. These structures are roofed, but have no walling. The available plastic tarpaulins, which they are using for protection from heat and rain, are already dilapidated</p>		<p>- Continue monitoring the shelter condition of IDPs; advocate for minimum standards in setting up temporary shelter structures, particularly in case of protracted</p>

and insufficient. Privacy partitions are also lacking. Most of the IDPs sleep on the ground, because bedding materials such as mats and blankets are not available.		displacement. - Assess current needs in preparation for possible provision of core relief items; refer other identified NFI needs, if any, to appropriate agencies.
Access to Livelihood, Food aid and nutrition		
Food is one of the immediate needs of the IDPs, and would be exacerbated if the displacement becomes protracted. Currently, the food assistance extended to them by the local government unit (LGU) and host community is insufficient. They also do not have any alternative means of livelihood while staying at the displacement site.	The barangay and municipal LGUs have extended food assistance consisting of rice and noodles.	Continue monitoring the food needs of IDPs. Advocate with the LGUs and other concerned agencies for the distribution of regular food rations to those affected, including families hosted outside of evacuation sites/designated temporary settlements.
Health		
There are complaints about common ailments such as cough and colds, diarrhoea, and fevers.	The Rural Health Unit (RHU) of the municipality has conducted an outreach medical mission at the displacement sites. The IDPs were provided with free medical consultations and medicines for common ailments.	Continue monitoring the responses to health needs, and advocate with the RHU to sustain regular visits especially if displacement becomes prolonged.
Education		
Classes at the following schools have been suspended because of the security situation: (1) Kuya Elementary School, and (2) Primary School in Sitio Selaklak.		Follow-up with the affected schools to verify resumption of educational activities.
Land and Property		
There are reported cases of looting. Some livestock and belongings that were left behind when the IDPs fled were allegedly taken by unidentified persons. Others who tried to go to their communities to salvage belongings reportedly sighted armed men in the area.	The members of the Barangay Peace and Order Council have convened to facilitate a dialogue with the affected population. Barangay officials have advocated the needs of the IDPs to other agencies concerned for appropriate action.	Continue monitoring of protection issues for possible referral to appropriate agencies.
Residents remain apprehensive that the unresolved land claims may lead to tensions flaring up again, despite the issue supposedly being settled already in the past. The ongoing fighting involves the same parties to the land dispute.		

PERSONS OF CONCERN

No. of Fam	No. of Persons +/-	Province	Location (Origin)				Location (Current)				
			Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Exact Location	
112	560	Maguindanao	South Upi	Kuya	Waley, Ideng, Furo Wagey and Dakeluan	Maguindnao	South Upi	Kuya			Multi-purpose structures, chapel and home-based

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

SOURCES

Barangay Local Government Unit – Barangay Kuya, South Upi Maguindanao
Magungaya Mindanao Inc. (MMI)

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



KEY FIGURES

Total number of displaced population



112 Families

560 Individuals

Current location of displaced population



560 individuals (112 Families) temporarily staying at the compound of Kuya barangay hall, occupying multi-purpose structures and kiosks

LEGEND

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

LOCATION MAP

