

Title: Displacement in Lamitan City due to Family Feud

Date: 19 August 2019

IDPPAR No. 13, Issue No. 02, 2019

INCIDENT BACKGROUND

On 5 August 2019, tensions between two feuding families in Barangay Lebbuh, Lamitan City, Basilan province triggered the preemptive evacuation of 216 families from Lebbuh and the adjacent village of Barangay Baas (see IDPPAR No. 13, Issue No. 01, 2019; published on 9 August 2019).

Immediately following the incident, the City Social Welfare Development Office (CSWDO) of Lamitan delivered assistance by providing 174 families with five (5) kilograms of rice each. The 42 other families were also referred to the CSWDO for possible assistance, subject to further validation and approval of the local government unit.

Community leaders confirmed that within a week after the incident was reported, the internally displaced persons (IDPs) were able to gradually return to their places of origin while negotiations to settle the dispute were still in progress.

CURRENT SITUATION

Out of 216 identified displaced families, only five (families) – residents of Barangay Lebbuh who are related to one of the feuding clans – are still unable to return. As of this report, they have decided to stay with their relatives in Barangay Baas for the meantime in order to avoid the risk of involvement in the rido due to their family ties with one of the parties to the dispute.

On the other hand, the IDPs who have returned have already resumed their livelihood activities, but remain vigilant in case of renewed fighting.

According to community leaders, a final negotiation session between the conflicting families will be held on 29 August, hopefully leading to a peaceful settlement of the dispute. Barangay leaders are coordinating with other local authorities as well as with the Coordinating Committee on the Cessation of Hostilities of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (CCCH-MILF), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), and Philippine National Police (PNP) regarding their participation in the dialogue.

PROTECTION ISSUES AND RESPONSE

ISSUES	RESPONSES	WAYS FORWARD
Threat to life, safety, and security		
The five (5) families who are close relatives of one of the feuding clans are afraid of being subjected to retaliation. They are unable to return to their habitual residences for fear of getting caught up in the fighting.	For now, these affected families have decided to stay longer with their relatives in Barangay Baas, which is deemed to be a safer location because of the larger number of residents and its proximity to the provincial road.	On 29 August, community leaders with the support of local authorities and the security sector will try to facilitate a final, peaceful resolution of the issue.
Shelter		
Because the 5 families who are still displaced are sharing living quarters with their relatives, their living conditions are crowded and they find it uncomfortable to sleep at night.	No response provided so far	Continue monitoring the situation of those who remain displaced, and advocate with local actors to provide further assistance if needed.

PERSONS OF CONCERN

No. of Fam	+/-	No. of Persons	+/-	Location (Origin)				Location (Current)				
				Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Exact Location
5		25	+/-	Basilan	Lamitan City	Lebbuh	Bohe-bato	Basilan	Lamitan City	Baas	Magsagad	House-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
159		790	+/-	Basilan	Lamitan City	Baas	Basilan	Lamitan City	Lebbuh	/		
10		50	+/-	Basilan	Lamitan City	City Proper	Basilan	Lamitan City	Lebbuh	/		
42		210	+/-	Basilan	Lamitan City	Baas	Basilan	Lamitan City	Baas	/		

SOURCES:

CSWDO of Lamitan
 CCCH-MILF Basilan
 Barangay LGUs (Lebbuh and Baas)

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 B ARMM 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



1,075 (216 Families)
Total number of individuals displaced at the time of the incident



1,050 (211 Families)
Total number of individuals who have returned



25 (5 Families)
Total number of presently displaced individuals

LEGEND

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

LOCATION MAP

