

Displacement caused by earthquake in North Cotabato province Date: 04 November 2019

Areas covered by assessment: Municipality of Bansalan and Magsaysay (updates)

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INCIDENT BACKGROUND

A series of earthquakes have occurred in Central Mindanao within the month of October.

On 16 October 2019, at around 7:30 pm, a magnitude 6.3 earthquake hit a large area of Mindanao. In Region XI, the most affected area was the municipality of Magsaysay, in Davao del Sur province.

On 29 October 2019 at around 9:00 am, a magnitude 6.6 earthquake shook different parts of Mindanao (epicenter at Tulunan, North Cotabato). The municipalities of Bansalan and Magsaysay in Davao del Sur were among those affected. Families were forced to leave their residences, and even some patients had to evacuate from hospitals.

CURRENT SITUATION

Municipality of Bansalan

A total of 561 families from different barangays and 126 patients from 3 hospitals were displaced. According to the Bansalan Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO), houses that were partially damaged by the 16 October 2019 earthquake are now categorized as totally damaged. Six (6) severely wounded individuals were brought to the nearest hospital.

Municipality of Magsaysay (updates)

Following the second earthquake on 29 October, a total of 958 families from 7 barangays are currently staying in different evacuation centers. The municipal hall of Magsaysay, which had earlier been damaged by the first earthquake on 16 October, has now been totally damaged. Families were forced to leave their homes because of the damage, and out of fear of recurrence or aftershocks.

Based on official reports after the 16 October earthquake, damaged houses and establishments reached 1,368 (219 totally damaged; 704 partially damaged; 445 lightly damaged).

The provincial and municipal local government units (LGUs), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and Department of Health (DOH) have initially provided humanitarian assistance to IDPs.

PROTECTION ISSUES AND RESPONSE

ISSUES	RESPONSES	WAYS FORWARD
Threat to life, safety, and security		
<p>Landslides occurred in barangay Upper Asbang and Tagaytay. Land cracks have been observed in areas of barangay Malawanit.</p> <p>IDPs that came from Barangay Upper Asbang were advised to stay in Barangay San Miguel Elementary School. As of the time of visit, they have just arrived in the area and have not established their tents yet. They are still waiting for the support from the LGU and DSWD.</p> <p>In Barangay Balnate, Magsaysay, IDPs shared that when it rains, they run out of their tents and look for a place to stay until the rain stops. Usually, they stay in a covered court, which is not safe because of its old structure and it has been partially damaged by the earthquake.</p>	<p>The DSWD has provided initial support for the IDPs in the form of food packs, sleeping kits and temporary tents. Barangay officials are closely monitoring the situation of IDPs in the area.</p>	<p>Coordinate with the LGU and National Housing Authority (NHA) for possible support to those IDPs who could no longer return to their habitual residences because of the landslide.</p> <p>Advocate with DSWD and other concerned agencies to ensure IDPs' access to evacuation centers in safe locations, and proper camp coordination and camp management particularly in case of protracted displacement.</p> <p>Develop/strengthen protection monitoring and reporting mechanisms as well as inter-agency coordination structures, to ensure timely referral of verified issues.</p>

<p>As of 21 October, families in Barangay Malawanit, Magsaysay municipality (one of the areas most affected by the 16 October earthquake) were in an open space beside the Malawanit Elementary School, under the mango trees. They built small tents, without side covers and partitions. They are just lying on the floor with thin mats. This situation puts them at risk, especially from rain or extreme heat from the sun. Some parts of the land in this area have been split due to the strong quake, and aftershocks have been experienced.</p> <p>One family was trapped under their house in Barangay Malawanit when the land cracked during the 16 October earthquake. The mother and a 10-month old child died, while the father and their 8-year old child survived with injuries due to falling rocks. The family is currently staying in a small “kubo” (hut).</p> <p>Another person in Magsaysay was reportedly injured due to falling rocks when their house collapsed.</p>		
Gender-based violence		
<p>While no GBV cases have been reported so far, lack of privacy partitions and gender-segregated toilets/sanitation facilities puts women and children at risk.</p>		<p>Continue monitoring the situation of IDPs, and proactively ensure that referral pathways are in place so that any reported violations can be addressed in a timely manner.</p>
Threat to liberty and freedom of movement		
<p>Although no cases of restrictions on movement have been reported so far, the vulnerability of IDPs in open spaces or staying near/along roadsides can expose them to risks.</p>		<p>Continue monitoring the situation and carry out advocacy with relevant actors as needed.</p>
Family separation		
<p>No reported case.</p>		<p>For further monitoring and verification, given the risks associated with displacement caused by natural disasters and the possibility of protracted displacement.</p>
Human trafficking		
<p>No reported case</p>		<p>Continue monitoring the situation and ensure that reporting and referral mechanisms are in place, since protracted displacement and lack of sustainable livelihoods could make IDPs vulnerable to trafficking.</p>
Shelter		
<p>Most of the IDPs in different evacuation centers in Magsaysay stayed in tents that are not firmly built and no proper flooring. Most of them used plastic mats and bamboo beds.</p> <p>There are no separate rooms for women. No designated area for kitchen.</p> <p>The families are in difficult situation. Small tents are occupied by two or three families. There is no privacy. There is no proper area for cooking and it is more difficult to cook when it rains. Some of them go to houses nearby or in the school to change clothes or take a bath. There is not enough bed; most of them are just lying on the ground with thin mat.</p>	<p>As to the time of visit, there is not enough provision of shelter yet.</p>	<p>Coordinate with LGUs for the provision of safe shelter.</p>

Food aid and nutrition		
Livelihoods have been disrupted, making displaced families dependent on aid provision for their basic daily needs.	The LGU and DSWD have initially provided food packs to most of the affected families.	Facilitate dialogue with LGUs and other service providers to gain further support for health, nutrition and livelihood.
Water and sanitation		
Water supplies are scarce, and IDPs are dependent on rationing of drinking water. There is not enough water for washing and other purposes. Potable water is delivered by fire trucks in some areas, but there are no regular schedules. Toilets are also limited, and IDPs need to fall in line to use them. Women, in particular, encountered difficulties in addressing their hygiene needs. Some evacuation sites like the Barangay San Miguel Gym had gender-segregated toilets, but others like Balnate Elementary School did not have separate facilities for men and women.	The LGU has taken the initiative to provide drinking water to the IDPs.	Support the LGU in establishing a regular water supply for the IDPs, and coordinate with other relevant agencies to address identified gaps in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs.
Health		
There are reported cases of fever and diarrhoea in Barangay Balnate, but according to the designated nurse in the area, IDPs have already been provided with medicines. The emergency has significantly impacted IDPs' psychosocial wellbeing. Many of them manifest signs of anxiety, sleeplessness, and fear. Most of the IDPs reported that they have difficulty in sleeping because of their uncomfortable situation, and are also very worried about their disrupted livelihood. Prolonged periods in such vulnerable conditions, exposed to heat and rain, could further put IDPs' health at risk if they are not provided with more protective shelters in safe locations.	Government medical personnel in the affected areas are closely monitoring the health needs of affected individuals.	Coordinate and advocate with DOH and DSWD for the provision of medical and psychosocial support.
Education		
Classes are temporarily suspended, especially in areas where the school grounds are being used as evacuation centers.		Coordinate with DepEd and DSWD for psychosocial support for displaced children, and for provision of temporary learning facilities to ensure continuity of educational activities particularly in case of protracted displacement.
Food security and Livelihood		
Livelihoods have been disrupted. Households that re dependent on farming are unable to tend to their crops and farm animals.		Follow up with relevant services providers on the provision of immediate livelihood support and early recovery interventions.

PERSONS OF CONCERN (figure shown below is based on actual assessment on 04 November 2019)

No. of Fam	+/-	No. of Persons	+ / -	Location (Origin)				Location (Current)				
				Province	Mun	Barangay	Siti o	Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Exact Location
123		615		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Altavista		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Altavista		Brgy Site (open field)
73		365		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Darapuyay		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Darapuyay		Darapuyay Elem School
20		100		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Dolo		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Dolo		Dolo Elem School
21		105		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Marber		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Marber		Back of Brgy hall (open area)
278		1,390		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Rizal		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Rizal		Barangay Hall (in front)
8		40		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Sto. Nino		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Sto.Nino		
38		190		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Tubod		Davao del Sur	Bansalan	Tubod		Brgy Hall (in front)
372		1,860		Davao del Sur	Magsaysay	Tagaytay		Davao del Sur	Magsaysay	Balnate/San Miguel		Balnate Elem school. Balnate open field San Miguel Elem
109		545		Davao del Sur	Magsaysay	Balnate		Davao del Sur	Magsaysay	Balnate		Minsaad Building
142		710		Davao del Sur	Magsaysay	Upper Bala		Davao del Sur	Magsaysay			
61		225		Davao del Sur	Magsaysay	San Miguel		Davao del Sur	Magsaysay	San Miguel		San Miguel Gym
93		465		Davao del Sur	Magsaysay	Maibo		Davao del Sur	Magsaysay			

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

Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office
Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office
IDPs from Bansalan and Magsaysay municipalities
Commission on Human Rights (CHR) – Region XI

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 Systems). 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 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.

For more information, please visit the Protection Cluster website <http://www.protectioncluster.org/philippines/> or e-mail us at PHICOPRC@unhcr.org



Areas covered by the assessment in municipalities of Bansalan and Magsaysay

