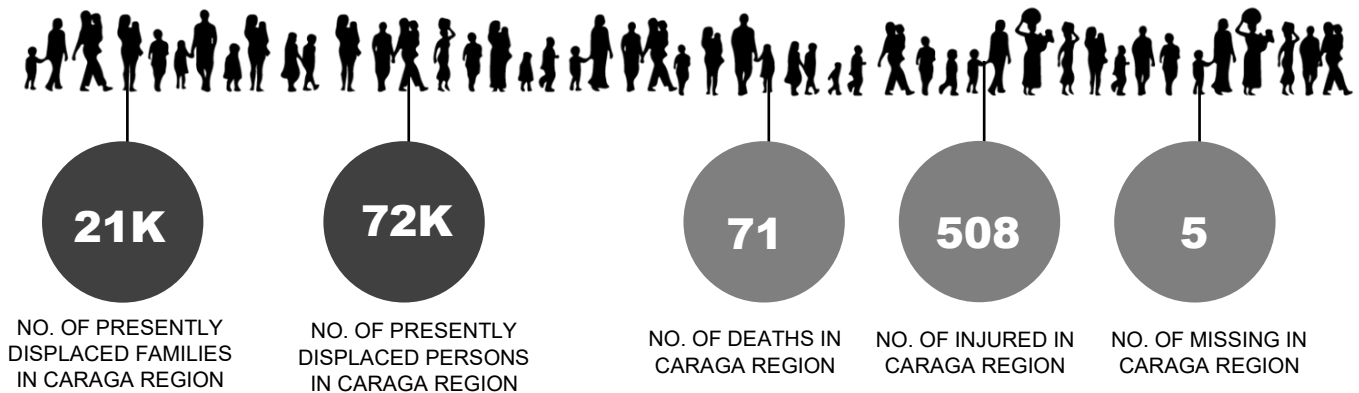


IDP PROTECTION ASSESSMENT REPORT (IDPPAR)

Displacement due to Super Typhoon Rai (Odette)

Reporting Period: 27 December 2021 – 05 February 2022

KEY FIGURES¹



INCIDENT BACKGROUND

Super Typhoon (STY) Rai with local name Odette swept through the Philippines in mid-December soon before the year 2021 ends. The super typhoon batter strong winds and heavy rain in several parts of Mindanao. It also brings fears that widespread flooding and landslides may have claimed more lives like the other super typhoons that had hit the country. Communication and power were out in several parts of Mindanao making the rescue efforts difficult.

The Caraga Administrative Region is highly affected by the super typhoon among the other regions in Mindanao. The authorities have advised its constituents to take necessary precautionary measures against possible hazards such as floods, landslides, strong winds, and storm surges. In some parts of Mindanao, the super typhoon has also caused displacements because of floods and landslides.

CURRENT SITUATION

Over 50 days after the devastating landfall of STY Rai (Odette) in the country, the affected populations remain steadfast to overcome the enclosed challenges of its aftermath. In Mindanao, the extent of damage manifests in the province of Dinagat Islands and in the Province of Surigao del Norte, including Siargao Island.

Per the government's Disaster Response Operation Monitoring and Information Center (DROMIC) report dated as of 03 February 2022, the number of affected families have reached up to 385,078 families (approximately 1.5 million individuals). Out of these number of affected families, 20,518 families (approximately 72,180 individuals) were displaced and are currently staying either in the evacuation centers or at their relative's home.

¹ DSWD DROMIC as of 03 February 2022, Caraga Region and NDRRMC SitRep No. 43 for Typhoon Odette as of 03 February 2022

Amidst all these, the community exhibits extreme resilience. Most of the affected families have immediately built makeshifts out of salvaged materials from the debris left by the raged storm. Although, safety and dignity are two other things of concern linked to meeting durable solution.

Despite their resiliency and given the extent of damage the typhoon left in their places of origin, the affected families anticipate that it may take some time to reach full recovery. STY Rai (Odette) particularly impacted their access to shelters, livelihood, lifelines, infrastructural facilities including access road, health facilities, schools, dock in port among others. After more than a month, the affected population is looking forward to sustainability of food assistance, support for reconstruction of shelters and recovery of livelihood. Evidently, there is a lot of work that needs to be done and a huge gap to fill to accelerate recovery and ensure safe and dignified living of the affected population.

Furthermore, the implementation of the notice for non-rebuilding of structures within the legal easements of Siargao Island or the No-Build Zone (NBZ) policy is making a resounding noise to the affected communities in the said island which is now adding to their anxieties.

Meanwhile, a coordination meeting attended by the mayors of the 9 municipalities in Siargao Island and the representatives from different humanitarian agencies was conducted for the first time in the provincial operation center based in the island. Presented in the meeting were the commitments of the UN agencies in implementing Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) project in the region. Also, non-CERF funded agencies were given their time to present their engagements as well.

In this meeting, UNHCR emphasized that its commitments revolve around two main functions, namely: operation and coordination functions. The operational function refers to UNHCR's protection-by-presence through protection monitoring with project partners, protection mainstreaming, advocacy works and provision and distribution of core relief items (CRI). For its coordination function, UNHCR provides technical support in protection coordination and information management.

PROTECTION ISSUES, RESPONSES, AND GAPS

THREAT TO LIFE, SAFETY AND SECURITY

Protection assessment considers the various threats to life, safety and security of displaced persons stemming from crime, violence, armed conflict or nature disaster.

ISSUES

- a. Assessed IDPs in Surigao City expressed fear of looting and chaos should there be no improvement in the speed of humanitarian response particularly in the provision of food assistance. Due to access and communication issues, response from both the government and humanitarian community has been greatly challenged and affected its reach and geographic coverage.
- b. The situation of already marginalized communities is further exacerbated by the impact of the storm. These are GIDA (geographically isolated and disadvantaged communities) with less access to services. Among these are far flung barangays like Caridad and Bailan of Pilar, Corazon and Libertad of General Luna, Garcia of Sta. Monica, Bitaug of Burgos, Bongdo of San Benito; and island barangays Hali-an and Caub of Del Carmen; and the separate island municipality (that has island barangays) of Socorro. Some pocket villages are also prone to flooding as they are situated in low lying areas near rivers and creeks along municipal boundaries.
- c. People dwelling in makeshifts built out of salvaged materials are exposed to elements and are not protected against the heat and rain. This condition poses potential health-related problem such as colds.
- d. The return of IDPs prior to clearing of debris has adverse effects to the physical safety of the affected population. In San Francisco, Surigao del Norte and in the island barangays of Surigao City, there are IDPs who have sustained wounds from the debris left by STY Odette. Clearing is ongoing but the pacing is quite slow.

- e. There was an instance when trouble erupted in one of the ECs because some IDPs had a drinking spree that got the involved IDPs intoxicated, which eventually led to trouble.

RESPONSES

- a. UNHCR conducted a rapid protection monitoring / needs assessment in Surigao City on 19 December 2021. Monitored issues were raised to cluster partners and government agencies during the Tri-Cluster Meeting on 21 December. It has continued to advocate for the urgent delivery of relief assistance especially to the severely affected communities not just in Siargao and Dinagat Island but also in the coastal municipalities of Surigao del Norte province.
- b. Assistance in hard to reach and geographically isolated areas is now being highlighted in different clusters and government agencies and is now part of the planned responses.
- c. In some areas there is an ongoing clearing operation. Lacking appropriate equipment hinders full clearing of the roads and sites.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. Expand the reach of protection monitoring and rapid protection assessment to assess the physical safety and security of the displaced population.
- b. Ensure clearing of the returned sites and the access road and pathways going to these sites.
- c. Ensure a functional camp management

ACCESS TO LIFELINES

Ensure that basic lifeline support is functional to facilitate the speedy delivery of response

ISSUES

- a. The disruption of lifelines in Surigao del Norte affects the timely provision of assistance. The electricity and communication networks have not yet been fully restored in most badly hit areas.
- b. Debris clearing is still ongoing. The national road heading to Surigao City has opened to traffic on 18 December after being cleared of debris. However, it was observed that some of the electrical posts that were toppled down remain in the road posing risks to residents and travelers. There is an urgent need to clear the toppled electrical posts for the safety of concerned population. The situation remain the case after almost 2 months.
- c. Access to Siargao and Dinagat islands is still very challenging due to limited water vessels to transport assistance. Lifeline facilities are not yet fully operational.
- d. Electricity is not available in Surigao City. As electricity is still not operational, there is no lighting inside the evacuation centers, to the returned sites, as well as to houses where the IDPs are hosted by their relatives. This situation may pose safety and security risk for IDPs, women, and children, especially at night. In Siargao Island, majority still have no access to electricity which also limits them to having full access to communication. IDPs need to pay P20-P60 for charging of cellphones and laptops.
- e. Storage facilities such as gymnasiums were also damaged by the typhoon.
- f. Lack of System in the registration and tracking of the IDP population. Across the evacuation centers, there are no system yet in registering the IDPs. This concern may resort to unequal distribution of assistance, chaos between and among the IDPs and service providers. Mechanism in tracking the IDPs who voluntarily return to their places of origin is yet to be established. This may also post a challenge in providing durable solutions.
- g. Access to communication remains a challenge in Siargao Island, making it more difficult for the affected families to seek for financial help and other assistance from relatives and friends outside the typhoon-affected areas and vice versa. This also hampers the response operations both from the government and non-government organizations/agencies as reports and communications are not being sent and received in a timely manner. Cellphone and internet connection in the island of Siargao remain a major issue, especially in the municipalities of Sta. Monica and Del Carmen.
- h. The dock-in port in the island of Catadman is damaged, causing more difficulties in the delivery of assistance to the barangay.

RESPONSES

- a. The Philippine Ports Authority organized themselves to better assist the humanitarian response. There are two types of water vessels available to ship goods from Surigao City to Siargao and Dinagat island. This includes seacraft from the Philippine Navy to Siargao and a ferry boat from Montenegro Shipping Lines to Dinagat island. DSWD Caraga loaded 5,000 food packs on Dec 19, 2021, to Siargao and Dinagat.
- b. The community lifeline services are still being restored. As the typhoon downed the power supply in all affected areas, the electric cooperatives in different parts of Mindanao have been rendering its support to Siargao Electric Cooperatives (SIARELCO) and Dinagat Island Electric Cooperative (DIELCO) for the immediate restoration of the electric power in the island. Their main task is the restoration and repair of mainlines and electric posts.
- c. Disaster Assistance Family Access Card (DAFAC) registration led by DSWD is being done in affected municipalities in the region.
- d. The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) is providing internet connection in strategic areas to support continuous operation of the LGUs in Siargao Island.
- e. Per report during the Education Cluster meeting, a total of 59 solar lighting systems have been installed in the Caraga Region. 27 of which are in Dinagal Islands, another 27 in Siargao Island and 5 in Surigao City and Surigal del Norte Province.
- f. DepEd has received donations in the form of teacher's kits, learner's kits, school-in-a-box, tarpaulins, tents, relief goods, generators, water filtration systems, hygiene kits, and other assorted school supplies. These donations were given by non-government organizations and humanitarian agencies such as UNICEF, World Vision, USAID, UNILAB, GIZ, among others.
- g. NGOs and other private organizations provided solar lanterns to target communities
- h. Restoration of damaged structure that may hamper delivery of services and humanitarian assistance

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. Immediate restoration of communication network to facilitate transmittal of information that will speed up the response. If possible, work closely with the private mobile companies and seek their assistance to provide temporary communication solutions to affected population, e.g., free calls to allow affected families to contact their families and relatives.
- b. Maintain the support from different electric cooperatives in Mindanao until powerline are fully restored..
- c. Immediate restoration of electrical power lines to ensure the safety of the affected communities.
- d. Speed up of debris clearing by utilizing the local capacity (e.g., food and cash for work modality) to ensure the safety of the concerned population and improve access of humanitarian responses.
- e. Though there are well-off families who are financially capable of procuring generator sets for their use, majority can only procure the low-cost flashlights and solar lamps for their use.
- f. Provision of solar-based light that will temporarily aid the need for lights especially for those families with dependent vulnerable/persons with specific needs members.

ACCESS TO FOOD AID, NUTRITION & LIVELIHOOD

Ensure that IDPs receive a minimum basic food ration

ISSUES

- a. Food insecurity is high across all barangays. Families were not able to bring food when they evacuated in haste.
- b. In the assessed areas in Surigao City, the local government has provided limited supplies of food packs. There is lack of cooking facilities and utensils as some IDPs are using firewood and butane gas for cooking. Humanitarian support is still limited, and it is unclear when the IDPs will be able to receive the succeeding rounds of food aid.
- c. As most of the business establishments are damaged, employment of residents has been greatly affected. In coastal communities where fishing is the main source of livelihood, boats used for fishing were totally damaged. Daily paid workers such as laborer do not earn income as work was also halted.

This poses challenges to their purchasing power which could result full reliance to humanitarian assistance.

- d. In Siargao and Dinagat islands, some families expressed that they have not or have received one-time food distribution neither from the government and humanitarian organizations. However, there are some families in some evacuation centers who have received more multiple food packs from the government and other private donors. There are concerns on duplication of the assistance provided due to lack of coordination between the government and other providers. One of the government representatives expressed that there are some donors who do not coordinate at the provincial and municipal level hence, some of the assistances were duplicated. This concern shows that it has affect some of the displaced families and resorts to negative coping mechanism such as consumption of less nutritious food, reduction of food consumption, or diversion of other household equipment to food. Evidently, the displaced families are dependent on food aid from the government.
- e. Over twenty days after the typhoon struck Siargao, food is still one of the most pressing needs raised by the IDPs and affected populations. In some municipalities, food provision is relatively sufficient but still majority of them clamor for a sustained food provision as their buying capacity of food sustenance has decreased because of their lack or disrupted livelihood activities. Most of them are still dependent on the food aid provided by the government and private entities and individuals.
- f. Prices of basic commodities have significantly increased up to 30-40 % from its previous prices. i.e. in the municipality of Del Carmen, the price of water gallon from water refilling stations have increased from P15.00 per gallon to P50.00 per 20 litter gallon. Market prices of fish and meat have also increased. The price increased of commodities was attributed to the absence of lifelines and the cost of transportation of goods from suppliers. The same situation in Dinagat Island.
- g. In Siargao, fisherfolks and farmers are the most affected sectors in terms of livelihood. Livelihood activities and sources of income of income have been severely affected. In the island barangays of Dapa and adjacent municipalities, most families are relying on fishing as their main sources of livelihood. But up to this date, many of them cannot continue their livelihood as their fishing implements like boats were damaged and lost during typhoon making it difficult for them to recover. *Some mentioned that they only support in their start-up capital to buy or repair their boats.* This is the same scenario in the island barangays of Surigao city, herein aside from their shelters, their source of livelihood such as fishing, and coconut farming are the greatly hit by the typhoon. Some IDPs and affected population mentioned that coconut may take 7 to 10 years before it can recover.
- h. Uncertainty to restore livelihoods or jobs were expressed by the parents who are either doing casual labor or employment in the resorts (i.e., General Luna resorts stopped operation and Dapa central economic area).
- i. The main source of income of most of the residents in Siargao Island are farming and fishing. Most farmers are used to growing coconut trees which are now mostly, if not all, damaged by STY Odette (Rai). According to the farmers, there's no assurance of recovery for those few that are still standing; hence, the more practical option is to replant. And while this option will take years again before their first harvest, they are willing to do it anyway as they see no other option other than this. For them to start replanting, they need of coconut seedlings. While most of the fisher folks have either left with damaged or have lost their fishing gears and equipment.
- j. Some of the locals used to work in various tourist spots and resorts in Siargao Island. However, this sector has been long challenged by the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic, which situation has only been worsened by the aftermath of STY Odette (Rai) as the damaged structures and resort buildings may take some years to be restored to their functioning state again.
- k. DSWD is on their second wave of the distribution of food assistance in the municipalities in Siargao Island.
- l. The IDPS at Surigao del Norte National High School EC said that they are not getting any free food packs anymore or the food assistance do not come so frequently as before.

RESPONSES

- a. DSWD Caraga loaded 10,000 food packs on 19 Dec 2021 to Siargao and Dinagat. Also, facilitated the arrival of 850 food packs in Siargao via C130 from NRLMB.

- b. In some evacuation centers, the Philippine Red Cross and Nabunturan Emergency Response Team were able to distribute hot meals.
 - a. Logistical support from national to regional government from WFP.
 - a. From DSWD Region 12 - 8,000 food packs and NFIs for SDN mainland (Sison, Mainit, Tagana-an, and Surigao City)
 - b. From Region 11 – 8,000 food packs and NFIs for Dinagat
- c. According to the DSWD Caraga, there is an on-going negotiation with the national office about 25,000 food packs for augmentation. Per initial assessment of the Regional Director, the number of food packs is insufficient to cover the needs of affected families in the region. It is being projected that the current figure of affected families in Caraga will increase once all municipalities will be able to transmit its reports.
- d. Issues concerning storage of goods as the warehouse of DSWD Caraga in Surigao City has been damaged as well.
- e. DSWD and Humanitarian Team conducted multi-rapid need assessment.

Field Office Caraga Update on DSWD Family Food Packs augmentation as of January 14, 2022:

Province	Affected population	Family Food Packs provided
SURIGAO DEL SUR	72, 508	550
SURIGAO NORTE MAINLAND	114,426	49, 689
SIARGAO ISLAND	38,597	33 620
DINAGAT ISLANDS	37,605	33, 728
AGUSAN DEL NORTE	48,416	4,449
AGUSAN DEL SUR	26,441	none (no request from the LGUs)

- f. The LGU of Pilar in the province of Surigao del Norte is now on their 10th wave of food assistance distribution. According to the LGU, while they are still in abundance of food supplies and inventories, they still ensure to regulate and strategize well the distribution in anticipation for the coming months when donations become exhausted.
- g. The municipality of Sta. Monica in Siargao Island is receiving food support from both government and non-government sources as confirmed by the local chief executive.
- h. The DSWD focal person in Siargao Island EOC claimed to have already covered 100% food of the reported affected families in the island. The office is set to distribute its second tranche of food distribution.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. Stockpile of relief goods is inadequate to cover even the first round of distribution to all severely affected communities. Support augmentation is highly needed.
- b. Provision of food assistance prioritizing the severely affected families in the coastal areas whose houses were totally damaged.
- g. Apart from the islands of Siargao and Dinagat, food assistance should also prioritize the severely affected coastal municipalities connecting Surigao Del Sur and Surigao del Norte.
- h. Logistic Cluster to provide temporary warehousing support to DSWD to store food packs and other relief goods.
- i. Provision of food to island municipalities and barangays (e.g Socorro municipality and nine (9) island barangays of Dapa.
- j. Prioritization of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and People with Specific Needs (PWSN).

- k. Sustained food ration is needed to augment the food sustenance of the IDPs and affected population while they are economically recovering from the effects of the typhoon.
- l. IDPs and affected population narrated they need support to recover their livelihood activities and sources of income. Farmers need support on farm inputs while fisherfolks are asking support for new boats and other fishing implements for them start earning a living and do not rely on humanitarian aid
- m. While they are well provided with food supplies, the affected population in the municipality of Sta. Monica in Siargao Island expressed needs of livelihood assistance.

ACCESS TO NON-FOOD ITEMS	<i>Particular attention should be given to vulnerable persons in need of core relief items.</i>
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ISSUES

- a. DSWD Caraga no longer have stocks of laminated tarps. They only have 78 tents available, 5 Child Friendly Space tents, 5 Women Friendly Space tents, 50 folding beds, 2190 mosquito nets and 3000 various kits (family, hygiene and sleeping kits).
- b. Provision of food, water for drinking, fuel, medicines, and temporary shelter are the immediate needs of the affected in island provinces. DSWD Caraga has sought the support of UNHCR to augment on the need for core relief items such as mosquito nets, solar lamps, plastic tarps and sheets that can be distributed to the affected families in Siargao and Dinagat islands.
- c. Many of the children in the visited evacuation centre also do not have proper clothing. IDPs were not able to bring household items such as bedding mats, blankets, and mosquito nets, which expose families and children to cold temperatures and mosquitoes. Trash and other debris from the typhoon have also not been cleaned up yet in the evacuation centre.
- d. IDPs were not able to bring household items such as bedding mats, blankets, and mosquito nets, which expose families and children to cold temperatures and mosquitoes. Trash and other debris from the typhoon have also not been cleaned up yet in the evacuation center. Provision of non-food items, kitchen sets, and other shelter NFI such as blankets, mats, and mosquito nets are recommended, particularly among those whose houses have been completely damaged, and those whose belongings have been washed away.
- e. Potable water source remains a challenge in Siargao. Most families rely on water refilling stations as Water District sources are still not totally restored.
- f. The price of water has increased from Php15 to Php50 per 20-liter water container. The price increase was attributed to the absence of electricity. All refilling stations are generator powered and using fuel which is also expensive in the island.
People, especially those in island barangays in Siargao, need Hygiene Kits support specially women and girls. They have less access to market and most stores/shops in their locality are closed or no longer operating.

RESPONSES

- a. DSWD Caraga sent a letter to UNCHR Philippines and requested for humanitarian aid support. UNHCR unloaded 1,000 4x 5 meters plastic tarps, 200 4x50 meters plastic tarps, 1,000 units of solar lamps, and 1,000 mosquito nets. These core relief items are intended for Siargao and Dinagat Island province and for severely affected coastal barangays in the mainland. Due to the limited supplies of CRIs, DSWD has to strategize the distribution prioritizing the most affected areas and the extent of damage. They allocated CRIs per LGU based on the ratio of affected families only. In the municipalities of Dapa, Pilar, and Sta. Monica, the island barangays were prioritized by the LGUs to receive the CRIs.
- b. Many private sectors and individual have provided support to the affected population.
- c. UNHCR and its partner ACCORD provided some Core Relief Items (CRIs) containing varying non-food items such as plastic sheets, mosquito net, solar lanterns and hygiene kit. The variation was due to varying needs of the community.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. Provision of more NFIs / core relief items to IDPs especially those who are severely affected and currently taking refuge in evacuation centers and makeshift shelters.
- b. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) of DSWD Caraga has requested for additional solar lamps to UNHCR to cover the following areas:
 - San Isidro, Siargao Island – 1,000 units of solar lamps
 - Bahay Pag-asa, Surigao City (catering Children in Conflict with the Law) – 10 units of solar lamps
 - Burgos, Siargao – 1,467 units solar lamps
- c. The following are the gaps in CRIs as reported by DSWD Caraga:

CRIs	Mainland SdN	Siargao Island	Dinagat Islands	Total
Hygiene Kits	20,610	23,989	14,883	59,482
Family/Dignity Kits	19,508	28,692	14,993	63,193
Sleeping Kits	18,157	26,669	15,202	60,028
Kitchen Kits	20,610	25,542	16,336	62,488
Solar Lamps	20,710	29,067	16,336	66,113
Laminated Sacks	56,922	8,834	4,040	69,796

ACCESS TO WATER AND SANITATION

Ensure sanitary facilities such as showers, toilets and washing areas are in place

ISSUES

- a. The prime source of water in Surigao City was damaged and has leaked resulting in the shortage of supplies of potable water. The residents including the IDPs are buying mineral water at higher cost which is a concern especially for those financial incapacitated. Long queue of people lining to purchase potable water has been observed.
- b. Others would rely from rainwater for domestic use. As observed, residents are taking a bath in open areas exposing risks to women and girls to possible sexual assault.
- c. Access to safe water and sanitation facilities is cut off, increasing the risk of outbreak of communicable disease and other health issues. The IDPs at the evacuation center are using rainwater stored in old tank for their domestic use.
- d. IDPs are uncertain on the cleanliness and safety of water that they are using. The latrines are not well-maintained especially because of unavailability of water, it is emitting foul smell identifiable even from afar. Vectors such as flies, and mosquitoes are also observed to infest the area.
- e. Although access to water was not raised as concern by most of the IDPs, it has been noted that access to potable water is a major concern among the displaced population. Majority of the IDPs expressed that their source of water comes from unprotected source of water such as water springs and open-well. There is potable water for sale and available in some locations, but some IDPs cannot afford to buy. Notably, there was an increase in the prices of water per container or gallon. In some evacuation centers, there are flowing water sources, but IDPs need to fall in line in getting the water. Furthermore, there are deep concerns about diarrhea outbreaks in many of the displaced location. At least, 50 individuals experienced have been reported to have suffered of diarrhea.
- f. The water supply at Surigao del Norte National High School and Surigao City National High School ECs is not potable for drinking. They only used the water-supply for washing, cleaning, and taking a bath. they would buy from the water refilling station for drinking water at P35-40 per liter.
- g. The IDPs at Surigao City National High School EC were reported to not observing cleanliness and proper disposal of their human wastes. The school staff had to clean the premises. This poses a negative impact to the health of the IDPs.

RESPONSES

- d. Water supply is being restored in Surigao City. The Bureau of Fire Protection in Surigao will be providing water tanker and supplies water to evacuation centers.
- e. The Psychological First Aid (PFA) sessions, led by the multi-disciplinary team of DSWD Caraga, are also maximized as an opportunity to provide orientations on health and WASH related topics to the affected communities that were reached during the field missions.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. Immediately provide water ration to address the dwindling supply of potable water by tapping the resources of relevant agencies providing WASH support.
- b. Provision of jerry cans and water storage.
- c. Water testing of sources of water including those from refilling stations.
- d. Provision of jerry cans and water storage.

ACCESS TO SHELTER

Meet the need for roofing and other materials from local sources if possible

ISSUES

- a. In the islands of Dinagat and Siargao, the local government units claimed that 90% of the households were totally damaged. As observed, residents are starting to repair their houses. Some IDPs go back to their places of origin in the morning to start repairing their dwellings.
- b. Residents in Surigao City shared about shortage of supply of corrugated sheet and tarpaulins as well as labor for shelter construction and repair.
- c. Physical safety is at stake among residents in Surigao City who put up temporary makeshift shelters along the road.
- d. IDPs sheltered at evacuation centers in Surigao City are overcrowded especially during the night when all members of the families are back after returning homes to salvage the materials to repair their houses.
- e. In Siargao, approximately, 24, 455 houses were damaged. Of the total, 24, 455 houses were damaged. Of this, 35 percent (8, 576 houses) at least partially damaged, and 65 percent (15, 879 houses) were destroyed. With this, at least 28, 765 individuals are temporarily living in the evacuation centers with no proper lightings, no partition, no access to potable water, lack of sanitation facilities, no separate comforts room for men and women, and no camp management, no communal spaces, lack of kitchen utensils. There are also rooms that are occupied by 3 to 4 families with 4 to 7 dependents. Aside from privacy issues, their health condition is also at risk due to lack of observance to COVID-19 protocol.
- f. Shelter support is still seen as one of the most pressing need. In the first two weeks of the emergency, food aid was the top priority being asked by the IDPs and affected population. But as of to date, most of the affected population interviewed narrated that their priority right is shelter support. *Some of them even mentioned that if they are to choose between food aid and shelter materials support, they would prefer the latter for them to reconstruct their damaged houses.*
- g. Tension between IDPs, affected population and LGUs were observed in some municipalities like in the case of Santa Monica where one person not able to receive shelter support allegedly filed a complaint (police blotter) because he was not included in the provision. The MSWDO attributed this to the inadequate number of items being provided which cannot cater all affected families. It is suggested that as much as possible, provisions and donations should at least meet the number of families in need.
- h. Most of the displaced population in Siargao Island, in Libjo, Dinagat Island and in the island barangays of Surigao City, including those who are now sheltered in self-constructed makeshifts, are seeking support for shelter and/or construction materials to rebuild their homes.
- i. In the municipalities of Pilar, Del Carmen, Burgos, Dapa and Sta. Monica of Siargao Island and in Libjo Municipality of Dinagat Island and some of the island barangays of Surigao City, shelter is among the expressed needs of the affected populations. There are thousands of families whose houses were reportedly damaged by STY Odette. Although, some of these families have returned to their places of origin, they are temporarily sheltered in roofed stilt houses built out of salvaged materials. There are

unaccounted number of families who are staying with their relatives while others are temporarily sheltered in the evacuation centers.

- j. People are exposed to elements like the changing weather, heat and cold in their shelter (built out of salvaged materials). This condition poses potential adverse impact to their health
- k. According to the focal person of DSWD in Siargao Island, 90% of the houses were estimated to have been totally damaged, while the 10% were assessed as partially damaged in the municipality of Dapa. The affected families have built makeshifts out of salvaged materials.
- l. IDPs in the evacuation centers expressed need of shelter or shelter construction materials.
- m. According to the interviewed IDPs in the DPWH Regional Center EC, they were given a schedule to leave the evacuation camp on the last day of January 2022, yet accordingly, they are yet to build or fix their damaged shelters.

RESPONSES

- a. UNHCR provided DSWD Caraga with plastic sheeting support to serve as temporary shelters especially for the severely affected displaced population.
- b. Other organizations like IOM, and CRS will be providing shelter repair kits including roofing in select areas in Dinagat and Siargao.
- c. Some municipalities in Dinagat Island like in Loreto have started to distribute shelter repair kits composed of G.I Sheets for roofing, plywood, umbrella nails, and plain sheets. They procured the item using their LGU budget.
- d. In the municipalities of Pilar and Burgos, the local government and private sectors have provided galvanized iron sheets (GI) to the affected families to augment materials for temporarily repair of their shelters.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. Shelter response (provision of shelter repair kits and installation of alternative temporary shelters/privacy partitions in evacuation centers) is an immediate need to ensure privacy, safety, and dignity in the evacuation centers and enable safe return to help decongest camps.
- b. For short-term support, provide temporary shelter support to severely affected families. For long-term support, commence shelter-related planning to facilitate rebuilding of damaged houses and infrastructures.
- c. The affected families in the municipalities of Pilar, Del Carmen, Burgos, Dapa and Sta. Monica of Siargao Island and in Libjo Municipality of Dinagat Island and some of the island brgy's of Surigao City have expressed the need for shelter for those who have totally washed-out houses and a construction material to repair their damage houses for those who sustained partially damaged houses.

CAMP COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT

Ensure services are delivered efficiently and that displaced people living in camps or camp-like settings are protected in all types of communal displacement settings in rural or urban environments

ISSUES

- d. It is observed that there are no CCCM structures and systems in place at the evacuation centers in Surigao City. There are no camp managers. Information at the evacuation center is lacking as there is no focal person identified for this purpose.
- e. Approximately, 24, 455 houses were damaged. Of the total, 24, 455 houses were damaged. Of this, 35 percent (8, 576 houses) at least partially damaged, and 65 percent (15, 879 houses) were destroyed. With this, at least 28, 765 individuals are temporarily living in the evacuation centers with no proper lightings, no partition, no access to potable water, lack of sanitation facilities, no separate comforts room for men and women, and no camp management, no communal spaces, lack of kitchen utensils. There are also rooms that are occupied by 3 to 4 families with 4 to 7 dependents. Aside from privacy issues, their health condition is also at risk due to lack of observance to COVID-19 protocol.

- f. In Pilar, Siargao Island, there are remaining families in the evacuation center due to washed-out houses. These ECs have no designated camp manager. The families are in greatly need for shelter and relocation sites.

Evacuation Centers	No. of Displaced Families
Pilar national High School	56
Mabuhay Elementary School	1
Salvacion Daycare Center	2
Salvacion Health Center	2
Salavacion Elementary School	2

The same situation and needs are true to the Municipality of Tagana-an, Surigao del Norte

- Daycare center in Brgy. Sampaguit with 1 family
 - Evacuation Center in Sampaguit with 17 families
 - Covered court in Brgy. Union with 2 families
 - Elementary School of Brgy. Union 9 families
 - Patino Evacuation Center (Island Brgy) 9 families
- g. The school principal of Surigao del Norte National High School was confused as to who he would coordinate with respect to the people. His concern was in case there will be injury to the IDPs or damages done to school premises, who would be responsible or be held accountable.
- h. In Surigao City National High School (SCNHS), the IDPs are cooking inside the classroom using wood. They utilized the classroom as a dirty kitchen which may cause fire.
- i. The modules prepared by the teachers and were left inside the classrooms which are utilized as EC were damaged as they had been used by the IDPs as a substitute for tissue paper.

RESPONSES

- a. DSWD Caraga is planning to deploy teams to determine the shelter and CCCM needs in the affected provinces. They have a team to manage CCCM headed by the Planning Officer.
- b. The first Tri-Cluster Coordination Meeting composed of Food/NFI, CCCM, and IDP Protection Clusters was conducted on 21 December in Butuan City. Co-lead agencies UNHCR, IOM, and WFP were present to help preside the meeting.
- c. The DSWD-CCCM focal is conducting assessments re- situation of in different evacuation centers in Siargao Island.
- d. The division superintendent took the initiative and called a meeting with the Punong Barangays and the City LGU to discuss the concerns being raised to by the school principal.
- e. IOM (International office for Migration) assisted the school by initiating cash for work. They have to clean the premises in exchange for cash.
- f. IOM also provided temporary kitchen, toilets, and water pump for water supply.
- g. One of the IDPs has asked for assistance because her daughter with a mental health issue. She said that it started when the modular classes started and compounded by the typhoon.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. Support should also be provided for the establishment of CCCM systems including information management.
- b. DSWD CARAGA response cluster lead/focal needs technical support in the cluster management and activities.
- c. The identified needs in the assessed evacuation centers are: water supplies, latrines, protection facilities such as Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS), Women-Friendly Spaces (WFS) and GBV Desk, proper waste disposal and areas to keep livestock and other animals.
- d. Provision of hygiene kit including tissues paper or wipes to IDPs within school-based EC

HOUSING, LAND AND PROPERTY

Ensure that deprivation of land, homes and other property of individuals as a result or cause of displacement must be properly monitored and addressed

ISSUES

- a. Government structures such as barangay halls and health centers are damaged. Assessment and documentation of totally and partially damaged houses are still ongoing. As per government's DROMIC dated 03 February 2022, the number of houses that sustained total damaged are 70,342 while 105,660 are partially damaged.
- b. Some IDPs expressed their concerns about the information they received that accordingly, most of the Municipal Local Government Units (MLGU) will no longer allow some of the displaced families to return to their places of origin especially those who are living in the shoreline or coastal areas. With the limited information, IDPs raised that there should be proper consultation involving them as they do not want to leave their habitual residences. In Siargao Island, DENR erected a No-Build-Zone visibilities markers in sites that include origin sites of the IDPs.
- c. Some 39 families living near creek side in Poblacion 3, General Luna are at risk of forced eviction. Most of them are living in the area for over 10 years already. They narrated that the land they are currently occupying is a public land but just recently they were informed by a claimant that the land is already tilted under his name and they are no longer allowed to rebuild houses in the contested land.
- d. Some 66 family in Sitio Busay, Carmen, a remote barangay in Loreto, Dinagat Island are subject for relocation as their current location is prone to landslide. The Mine and Geoscience Bureau (MGB) and LGU officials have visited the site and recommended an evacuation of the residents based on their risk assessment result.
- e. The IDPs who have sought temporary shelter at the schools in Surigao City and Placer Municipality were allegedly advised by the Department of Education (DepEd) to vacate the schools at the soonest time possible due to the resumption of modular classes.
- f. The No-Build Zone (NBZ) signages of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in the coastal areas of Siargao Island is adding to the anxieties of the affected population. Although, in the municipalities of Pilar and Dapa, the local authorities are allowing the affected families for temporary building of shelters in the NBZ by signing a waiver and that the houses to be built are made of light materials only. Although, there are municipalities that are strictly implementing the NBZ policy, such as in Burgos Municipality, which deprived the rights of the house owner to rebuild their houses in their habitual residences as it is identified as NBZ areas. It is alleged that there are families residing in the NBZ areas who were excluded by the local officials to receive shelter assistance so they cannot rebuild their houses.
- g. The shelter assistance of DSWD is limited only to its program on Emergency Shelter Assistance (ESA). However, the issue on NBZ may also affect the provision of ESA since one of the qualifications to avail of this assistance is the location where a house will be built. The ESA program's limitation may exclude families who have no location to return and/or resettle to, to rebuild their houses.

RESPONSES

- f. Referral of the issues for further validation.
- g. The issue on alleged order of eviction of IDPs from the school ECs was raised by UNHCR to the concerned agency through phone call/messaging. This was again raised by UNHCR during the weekly RDRC Meeting on 26 January 2022. On both occasions, the representative of DepEd denied cascading any official order or memo of this sort.
- h. A stakeholders meeting is to be set to discuss matters related to the NBZ areas in Siargao Island.
- i. The issue on NBZ was raised by the president of the League of Mayors in Surigao del Norte at the coordination meeting conducted at the EOC of Siargao Island on 28 January 2022. The OCD Regional Director acknowledged the concern and ensure consideration on the matter.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. For short-term support, provide temporary shelter support to severely affected families. For long-term support, commence shelter-related planning to facilitate rebuilding of damaged houses and infrastructures.
- b. Follow up the issue with DepEd for a dialogue with the affected families who claimed to have been ordered to vacate the schools they temporary occupying in in Surigao City and Placed Municipality
- c. Identification of relocation sites especially for the families residing in the identified NBZ areas

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

Particular attention must be placed on the risks faced by adolescent girls, such as lack of access to education

ISSUES

- a. Some schools are damaged but are still being utilized as evacuation centers. This poses risks to IDPs' safety and security. Debris clearing is highly needed.
- b. School modules are not being spared as families prioritized securing their important civil documentation.
- c. IDPs have limited access to information from the Department of Education on the resumption of classes.
- d. Schools have been used as evacuation centers, even as initial reports indicate that schools and other public buildings have been damaged. Local school authorities have also reported damage to furniture, learning resources and computer equipment.
- e. Issue on coordination to leave no one behind on donations being extended to schools. Some teachers are facing difficulties in complying with what is being required of them because of lack of access to electricity and internet connections.
- f. The learning resources such as modules that are tools for the continuity of learning were damaged by the typhoon.
- g. There was no letter informing DepEd from the City LGU or the CDRRMO that the school would be utilized as an evacuation center. People stormed into the school as early as December 15, 2022 at 8:00 in the morning.
- h. The situation at Surigao del Norte National High School (SNNHS) EC was chaotic because there was no official from the City LGU or CDRRMO that would guide the people in the school as they evacuated. People rushed to the school.
- i. The principal of SNNHS was confused as to who he would coordinate with respect to the people. His concern was in case there will be injury to the IDPs or damages done to school premises, who would be responsible or be held accountable

RESPONSES

- a. DepEd has submitted to DSWD list of learners needing the Psychological First Aid. As of reporting, only the Schools Division Office of Surigao City has submitted their data.
- b. DepEd already sent a communication letter to the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) to request for assistance on the purchase of learning materials.
- c. The division superintendent took the initiative and called a meeting with the Punong Barangays and the City LGU to discuss the concerns being raised to by the school principal.
- d. Out of the meeting, there was a Memorandum of Agreement that was forged. The CDRMMO said that it would shoulder the responsibility if there were damages property done to the school as a result of the pre-emptive evacuation.
- e. The DepEd already conveyed to the City LGU to relocate the IDPs as soon as possible because the preparation of face-to-face classes has already started. The classrooms occupied by the IDPs would soon be used by the school children.
- f. As per the mayor of Surigao city in a meeting on 30 January 2022, the remaining families at the school who are became homeless will be prioritized the identified temporary relocation site.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. There is a need to establish temporary learning spaces for children. This would not only address the hampered schooling but can have positive impact in their psychosocial well-being as some might experience trauma and psychological distress due to the onslaught of the typhoon.
- b. Ensure continuity of education by using the education in emergency model
- c. For schools to continue to function, particularly in the preparation of modules and other reporting requirements, they need prefabricated tents while school buildings are being used as evacuation centers or may have been damaged by the typhoon.

ACCESS TO HEALTH

Ensure that IDPs have access to basic health care and facilities during displacement

ISSUES

- a. Cough, colds, and diarrhea are common illnesses of IDPs that were reported in Quezon Elementary School.
- b. IDPs are prone to vector-borne diseases due to mosquitoes.
- c. Preventive health care is disrupted as health facilities are damaged and not functional.
- d. Assessed IDPs are no longer wearing masks and practicing social distancing. Contraction to virus is high given that they are overcrowded especially at night.
- e. Not all assessed IDPs are fully vaccinated, the second dose is still underway, but they are uncertain if it will be pushed through given the destruction to health facilities and vaccination sites such as gymnasium.
- f. Mental and psychosocial support services are needed among social workers and affected population.
- g. Malnutrition especially among children is quite high. Physical distancing and use of protective equipment such as masks are no longer observed. Some children and older persons have also started to catch fever, cough, and colds.
- h. Both IDPs and affected families have expressed growing concern over possible diarrhea outbreaks due to limited access to potable water. Some IDPs also raised their concerns on the insufficient medical supplies and supports which includes medicine, health kits, and other primary health care. At the barangay level, especially those located in coastal and inland areas, significant concerns include lack of medical personnel such as midwives and nurses and weak support mechanisms due to the unavailability of signal/internet in the areas.
- i. Majority of the IDP families stated that most of the members of their family do not possess COVID-19 vaccination cards, some of the IDP families expressed that they are still hesitant to be vaccinated due to lack of information on the effect and its added value. Since the time of displacement, some families expressed that they rarely go to health center due to lack of money to buy medicine and the abrupt increase in the cost of transportation.
- j. Health authorities and key stakeholders already are stressed with the implementation of the almost 2 years battle with COVID19 (implementation since 2020: social amelioration program (SAP), surveillance, imposition of restrictions, vaccination rollout).
- k. Compromised minimum standards on public health i.e., distancing in crowded areas, washing hands, and wearing mask. Some adults said they don't care of COVID-19 at all because they already lost houses and property.
- l. On COVID preparedness, Caraga Hospital is the only hospital admitting COVID as most of the hospitals were damaged by the typhoon and can no longer accommodate COVID patients. Provincial IATF will be convened as soon as possible.
- m. There are also monitored cases of leptospirosis in mainland Surigao del Norte.
- n. Psychosocial support is among the need of the populations affected as some manifest the mental health effects of the devastation of the typhoon.
- o. In the Island barangays of Surigao city, health facilities such as barangay health unit are still damaged.
- p. Children in Surigao del Norte National High School evacuation center are not being checked by physicians. They resorted to self-medication in curing the illness of their children. There are also reports of IDPs needing special psychosocial interventions due to mental health issues.

RESPONSES

- a. The barangay LGUs in Barangay Quezon, Surigao City provided supplies of medicines to common illnesses.
- b. In the mainland of Siargao, the Department of Health Caraga continuously providing health services in different municipalities in Siargao. They were augmented by doctors, and Nurses from other regions like Region 11 who are present in the municipalities of Carmen and Burgos. There are also health personnel doing regular Mental and Psychosocial Support Sessions to children.
- c. The multi-disciplinary team from DSWD Caraga conducted a Psychological First Aid (PFA) in the municipalities of San Benito, Burgos, Dapa, Pillar and General Luna.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. There is a need to set up temporary communal facilities or spaces (e.g. barangay health post/stations, safe learning spaces for children) to ensure the continuity of the provision of essential services such as preventive health care and even the continuation of COVID-19 vaccination.
- b. While in the island barangays of Siargao, IDPs and affected population have less access compared to those in the mainland. These barangays are often difficult to access because of the weather condition hampering the delivery of aid and services. Most of them can only be reached using a motorized pump boat.
- c. There is a need for supplies of tetanus toxoids for treating those who sustained wounds during the typhoon.
- d. So far, Psychological First Aid sessions are being conducted to IDPs in evacuation centers but not much sessions are given to IDPs in home-based settings.
- e. There is a need of food and non-food items for those quarantined/isolated due to COVID-19.

SUPPORT TO PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

Ensure that specific needs of the most vulnerable members or groups of the displaced population are being targeted and addressed

ISSUES

- a. Lack of disaggregated data to assess the extent of the aftermath to persons with specific needs
- b. Many persons with specific needs do not have meaningful access to information and humanitarian assistance. There are a lot of them who are not aware of the schedules and the location of aid leaving those elderly, and persons with reduced mobility not able to get assistance.

RESPONSES

- a. UNCHR and LGU of Dapa prioritized the elderly, pregnant and lactating mother in the distribution of Core Relief Items.
- b. DSWD provided Psychological First Aid sessions with the vulnerable groups in Socorro, Surigao City, Siargao Island and Dinagat Islands. These include children, youth, women and mothers, elderly and PWDs.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. Include the collection of disaggregated data in any assessment – related undertakings to be done
- b. Integrate the needs of persons with specific needs in humanitarian response

CHILD PROTECTION AND PROTECTION AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- *Ensure the safeguarding of displaced children from violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect*
- *IDPs are protection against violence on the basis of their gender or sex including acts that inflict physical, mental or*

sexual harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion and other arbitrary deprivation of liberty.

ISSUES

- a. Spaces in some ECs are limited. Displaced families position school chairs and what was left of their belongings as makeshift partitions, but privacy is still a huge gap which is an issue especially for women, girls, and boys.
- b. Absence of lighting in evacuation centers (ECs) exposed IDPs to greater protection risks especially women and children.
- c. Preventive health care for infants, and pregnant mothers are hampered as health stations and rural health unit functionality is disrupted.
- d. The lack of protective measures in the evacuation centers may heighten the risks of GBV, particularly to women and girls.
- e. In some of the evacuation centers, there are significant numbers of children left by their parents either unattended or no adults to care or provide guidance. Their reason is that both parents are out to fall in line for food aid or do extra works to sustain day to day living. Children and young minors used the damaged school building, school chairs, and debris as playground and other objects as toys which is detrimental to their safety. In one of the evacuation centers, at least 10-12 young boys and girls playing with “boga” (an improvised canon. According to the authorities, playing with an improvised canon may cause injury or even death.
- f. Based on the latest update of Police Regional Office of Caraga, cases of violence against women and children after the Typhoon took place in the region before and after the typhoon. From Nov 27 to December 17, 2021, thirty-three (33) cases of violence against women were recorded, while there are a total of Twenty-nine (29) cases from Dec 18 to January 7, 2022. For violence against children, a total of fourteen cases (14) took place from Nov 27-Dec 18, 2021, and a total of fifteen (15) cases recorded from Dec 18, 2021 to January 7, 2022. It is possible that cases will increase especially in the province of Sur Norte as people are expected to report once internet connection is restored.
- g. An attempted rape of a 15-year-old girl while in evacuation center was reported in one of the evacuation centers in Siargao.
- h. Trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation and abuse existed prior to STY Rai (Odette) Regulation on the entry/egress to the island is currently loose, only the manifesto in ticketing office has the record (of persons and age) going in and out of the island. Risks to trafficking and sexual exploitation is seen as likely to increase in the succeeding months, especially with the loss of livelihoods (opportunities from tourism, fishing, merchandising, and farming). People may opt to negative mechanism,
- i. Children and adolescents strongly expressed their need to go back home. These are from families temporarily staying either in the evacuation centers (ECs) and/or at their neighbors because their houses along coastal areas were totally damaged by surge and strong winds.
- j. Children expressed they need at least a safe temporary shelter if they can't have their home rebuilt soon. Their usual safe spaces were almost destructed such as schools, playgrounds, health station (including rural health unit), and daycare centers. Pupils' complaint about their learning modules which are either washed-out or soaked in water. There's probability of increase in out-of-school children and youth.
- k. Children are highly exposed to danger and injuries caused by sharp objects and rubbles from destructed houses, garbage, wastes, fallen trees, barb wires, and power lines. Some kids wear slippers they salvaged from the rubbles, and young girls borrowed clothes from neighbors' spared clothes from the storm (i.e., Brgy. Bitaug of Burgos and Physician of Sta. Monica).
- l. In Loreto town, Dinagat, seven minors were involved in looting activities in one school situated in barangay Esperanza. Based on the agreement between the Barangay officials, MSWDO and School Administrators, the children were reprimanded through community services. They were required to clean the school 2/day in five consecutive days.

RESPONSES

- a. Sub-cluster lead agencies namely UNFPA and UNICEF has deployed their emergency team to provide operational and technical support to the government.

UNFPA provided the below in Dinagat Island and Siargao

- Provisions of 1000 Dignity Kits (Women's Kits)
 - 1 Women-Friendly Space Tent with Kits
 - 400 Maternity Packs
 - 540 Solar Lamps
 - 1 Set of EMTF with generator and aircon (1 in Siargao)
 - 3 sets of RH Kits (2A; 2B and 6A)
 - 540 Solar Lamps in Siargao
- b. A DSWD-led monitoring and psychosocial activities in Surigao City, Surigao Del Norte, Dinagat and Siargao Islands will start tomorrow 11 to 14 of January.
- c. Psychological First Aid sessions serve as venue where affected population can raise any GBV-related concerns. Issues gathered from the Psychological First Aid session is being referred by the DSWD staff accordingly.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. There is a need for separate latrines and bathing cubicles with safety locks and proper lighting for women.
- b. Consider prioritizing continuity of preventive health care program to ensure pregnant and infants are receiving adequate health support (e.g. infants immunization, prenatal check-ups).
- c. Awareness-raising sessions for women and girls, men and boys in communities by Women-Friendly Space facilitators on GBV risk mitigation and access to services (face to face and radio based)
- d. Establishment of Child Friendly spaces and referral pathways for CP and GBV cases.
- e. Provide crash course on GBV referral pathways.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Internally Displaced Persons

Emergency Operations Center, Surigao City

Emergency Operations Center, Dinagat Island

Emergency Operations Center, Surigao Del Norte

Emergency Operations Center, Regional Disaster Risks Reduction Management Council (RDRRMC) - Caraga

Emergency Operations Center, DSWD Caraga

Local Government Units in Siargao and Dinagat Island

UNHCR Project Partners

- Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)
- Community and Family Services International (CFSI)
- Assistance and Cooperation for Community Resilience and Development, Inc. (ACCORD)
- Tiyakap Kalilintad, Inc. (TKI)
- Integrated Resource Development for Tri-People (IRDT)
- Commission on Human Rights (CHR)



IDP PROTECTION ASSESSMENT REPORT

The IDP Protection Assessment Form (IDPPAR) 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). To the extent possible, the terminology used in the IDPPAR 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. The number of people displaced/affected may differ from the number in need of humanitarian assistance. Although efforts are made to verify the data, the Protection Cluster takes no responsibility for the incompleteness or inaccuracy of the information. The information provided in this IDPPAR does not necessarily reflect the views of UNHCR or any individual member of the Protection Cluster.

MINDANAO VIRTUAL PROTECTION COORDINATION PLATFORM

In the present circumstances where limited physical access to IDPs is possible, and humanitarian actors are adjusting response using alternative modalities to access people in need including relying on social media, phones and other online communication tools to maintain regular communication with protection monitors within IDP community, as well as host communities, Mindanao Virtual Protection Coordination Platform (MVPCP) was created to strengthen coordination among relevant actors with a protection role (from regional and provincial down to municipal and community level) in Mindanao during this pandemic.

Under the leadership of the Department of Social Welfare and Development and the Ministry of Social Services and Development and with full participation of key state agencies: BARMM READI and IATF, members of MVPCP will work closely to ensure that COVID-19 related prevention and response initiatives at the national level will include IDPs and ensure they have access to basic services. Members of the MVPCP will work closely to ensure timely prevention of and response to protection issues in Mindanao including BARMM region and facilitate timely information-sharing with the IDP community on health measures in response to COVID-19.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

UNHCR works in partnership with government entities, INGOs, NGOs, CSOs, and UN Agencies, and other organizations. Its primary role is to share information on protection risks and needs and to facilitate coordinated intervention among the various actors involved in IDP protection. UNHCR has a project partnership with CFSI, CHR, ACCORD, MMI, KI, TKI, ACTED and IRDT covering Mindanao island including BARMM region. In addition to its project partnership, UNHCR works closely with local authorities and Mindanao Humanitarian Team Actors including: UNICEF | IOM | OCHA | UNDP | UNFPA | UNHABITAT | WFP | WHO | OXFAM | ACTION AGAINST HUNGER | CARE | UNWOMEN | ICRC | SAVE THE CHILDREN | KFPDI | PRC.

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