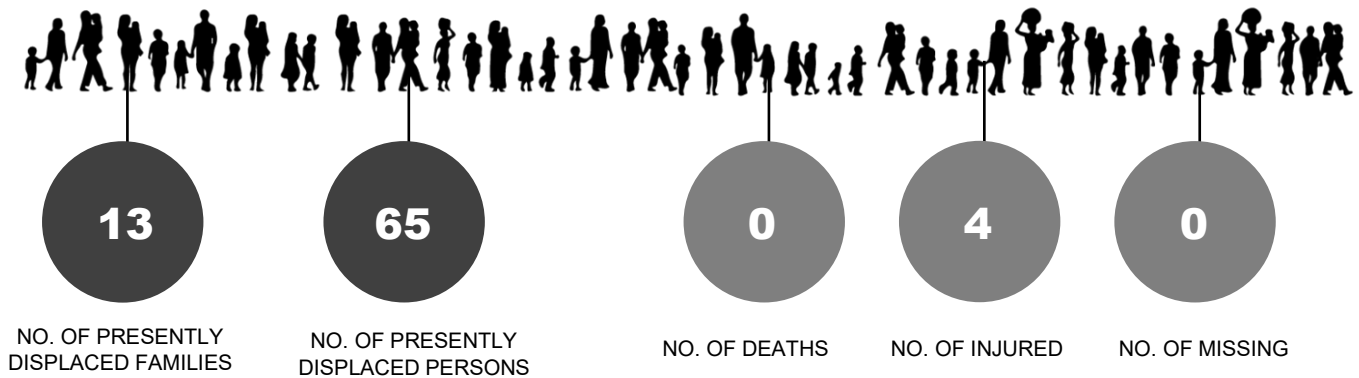


IDP PROTECTION ASSESSMENT REPORT (IDPPAR)

Displacement due to Super Typhoon Rai (Odette) in CARAGA

Reporting Period: 01-31 May 2022

KEY FIGURES



INCIDENT BACKGROUND

Super Typhoon Rai (local name Odette) swept through the Philippines and made its first landfall on 16 December 2021 in the coastal city of Siargao, with subsequent landfalls across eight other areas in Mindanao and Visayas region in the Philippines. The typhoon brought with it torrential rainfalls, violent winds, floods and storm surges leaving a wake of destruction on its pathway.

As of 24 May 2022, 406,775 families (around 1,538,087 persons) from 1,099 barangays in 67 municipalities and 6 cities across the five provinces of the Caraga region were affected by the typhoon. While many affected populations who were displaced during the typhoon have already returned home, some families have remained in the evacuation center and some others whose houses were totally damaged decided to stay with their relatives.

CURRENT SITUATION

According to the DSWD Caraga Disaster Response Operation Monitoring and Information Center (DROMIC) Terminal Report dated 24 May 2022, there are 406,775 families, (around 1,538,087 individuals) affected in the whole of Caraga. Of this number, 13 families (approximately 65 individuals) remain in one (1) evacuation center in the mainland of Surigao Del Norte. While most of the displaced families have already returned to their places of origin, there are still some who remain displaced and are currently staying with friends and relatives or in informal settlements. Majority of these families are those whose houses were totally damaged and have no means to rebuild them. While response slowly transitions to early recovery, many people are still left in complete devastation without stable shelter, access to essential services and health care, adequate food supply, access to protective services, and sustainable livelihoods. Given the extent of damage left by the typhoon, the affected families anticipate that it may still take some time to reach full recovery.

Meanwhile, the No-Build Zone (NBZ) policy which discourages communities not to return to the sites of their original homes and prevents them to build along the coastal areas, poses a setback to the ongoing rebuilding efforts. This also further exacerbates the typhoon-affected population's exposure to protection risks.

Moreover, the changes in the political landscape in Caraga, particularly in Surigao Del Norte, Surigao City and Dinagat Island (electing a new Representative, new Governors, and a new Mayor in Surigao City) may cause uncertainties to affected families and IDPs especially on the continuation of recovery and rehabilitation programs of the previous administrations.

PROTECTION ISSUES, RESPONSES, AND GAPS

THREAT TO LIFE, SAFETY AND SECURITY	<i>Protection assessment considers the various threats to life, safety and security of displaced persons stemming from crime, violence, armed conflict or nature disaster.</i>
ISSUES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. In Surigao City, around 179 displaced Bajau families are still living beside the road under makeshift shelters that were built out of salvaged materials. These families are exposed to further protection and safety risks, especially the small children who play by the side of the road unattended. According to the City LGU, these families could not be relocated yet due to unresolved issues with the receiving community in the proposed relocation site. To date, there are also uncertainties on who will facilitate and support the relocation of these families considering the recent changes in the city's government administration. b. People in makeshift shelters that were built out of salvaged materials are exposed not only to safety and security risks, but also to health risks due to the inadequate protection that the temporary shelters are able to offer. The return of IDPs prior to clearing of debris continue to pose risks to the physical safety of the affected population. According to reports, clearing of areas is still slowly progressing. c. Several barangays such as Brgys. Caridad and Bailan of Pilar, Brgys. Corazon and Libertad of General Luna, Brgy. Garcia of Sta Monica, Brgy. Bitaug of Burgos, and Brgy. Bongdo of San Benito are still reportedly flooded. Given that these barangays are located at the downstream, floodwater from the upstream barangays flow into the area. The flooding is also exacerbated by nonfunctional drainage systems in these areas. During heavy rains, the residents are evacuated to safer grounds. 	
RESPONSES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. In the case of the Bajau families, few options have been explored for their relocation, including the temporary shelter units under the project of IOM and the city government at Barangay Cagniog and another relocation site within the city. However, the Bajaus have expressed concerns over the locations of these sites which are away from the seas and from their sources of livelihood. b. Caraga developed the region's Post-Typhoon Odette Regional Rehabilitation and Recovery Plan which addresses the life, safety, and security needs of the affected communities. 	
NEEDS / GAPS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. While local government units are transitioning to early recovery focusing on shelter reconstruction, livelihoods, and relocations, there are still IDPs and host communities in severely affected areas who are not covered and have received very minimal support to facilitate their recovery. Hence, the need to engage development actors through the Humanitarian Development Nexus (HDN) to ensure continued support to remaining humanitarian needs while in transition phase. b. There is a need to provide adequate recovery assistance to families in flood prone barangays to address their immediate needs and to mitigate any further risks during their displacement. It is also recommended to reinforce the drainage system to prevent occurrence of flooding in the affected areas. 	

ACCESS TO SHELTER	<i>Meet the need for roofing and other materials from local sources if possible</i>
ISSUES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Shelter, livelihood, and WASH remain to be the top three issues being shared by most of the affected population. These issues are further exacerbated by the implementation of the No-Build Zone (NBZ) policy as most of the families for relocation are not receiving assistance on shelter because they were advised that the shelter and support on building WASH facilities will be provided once they are relocated. However, there are reports of delays in the relocation process, which prompted some families in the municipalities of Dapa, Pilar, and Del Carmen in Siargao Island to build temporary shelters in their habitual residences, which are declared as NBZ. There were also reports that some affected populations are hesitant to move out of their habitual residences because they fear that their livelihood activities will be affected once they transfer to relocation sites. 	

- b. While most of the IDPs have returned to their respective places of origin, there are still families who were not able to return to their places of origin and are currently staying with their relatives or in informal settlements. Most of these families are those whose houses were totally damaged and have no means to rebuild them. Many of them are previously living in areas now declared as No-Build Zones. According to reports, the Provincial government through the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office provided cash assistance amounting to PhP1,000 and/or PhP5,000 depending on the family size prioritizing the most vulnerable households. However, according to accounts from IDPs whose houses are within the NBZ, they have not been covered by the said assistance.
- c. Construction materials to repair damaged houses are among the priority needs of the affected populations in the municipalities of Pilar, Del Carmen, Burgos, Dapa and Sta. Monica of Siargao Island as well as in Libjo municipality of Dinagat Islands, and some of the island barangays of Surigao City. Thousands of houses in these areas were reported to be severely damaged by the typhoon.

RESPONSES

- a. The construction of the transitory shelters in Brgy. Cagniog, Surigao City has been completed and the housing units were handed over to the city LGU particularly. However, there are no clear information yet if the target beneficiaries have already been relocated to the site.
- b. A total of 1000 households from Brgys. Quezon, Trinidad, Cabongbongan, and Orok in Surigao City received Shelter Repair Kits through the funding support of the Bureau of Humanitarian Aid (BHA)- International Organization for Migration (IOM). The distribution of the material assistance was facilitated by ACCORD and the barangay councils.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. There is a need to continue advocacy and resource mobilization efforts at the national and local level to address pressing issues on shelter.
- b. There is a need to review the Government's beneficiary selection criteria to ensure non-discrimination and provision of equitable assistance, i.e., emergency shelter assistance, to IDPs including those that are currently within the proposed NBZ and temporary shelters/evacuation sites, in line with the leaving no one behind principle.

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. In Burgos Municipality in Siargao, the LGU already started the strict implementation of the said policy and have disallowed the rebuilding of houses and the return of IDPs in the affected areas. According to reports, there is already an approved plan for the relocation site in Brgy. Patag in Burgos but the details and the specific date of the relocation has not been communicated to the affected families yet.
- b. Some of the communities in Siargao Island (i.e., Brgy. Dayaohay, Pilar) are against the NBZ policy due to concerns on livelihoods in case they are relocated. They also expressed that they have not received full information about the policy and consultations are yet to be conducted by the DENR.
- c. In Dapa Municipality in Siargao, around 3,500 households coming from three barangays in Dapa have been identified for relocation. Accordingly, consultations about their relocation have already been conducted. Some of the affected families living within the identified NBZ were made to sign a waiver for building temporary housing in their areas. Meanwhile, the DENR have reportedly identified a temporary relocation site for the affected families and site development planning following the criteria of the DENR is set to be conducted. However, according to the MDRRMO, the identified site is a protected area and may not be suitable for relocation, thus further delays in the implementation of the relocation is expected.
- d. There are also LGUs that have deferred implementation of the said policy due to the lack of clear guidelines and in consideration of the situation of the affected families. Some of these LGUs are calling for support from the humanitarian agencies to provide flexible loan arrangements to help the affected families rebuild their homes.
- e. There are also reports of families residing within the NBZ areas who were allegedly excluded from shelter assistance, i.e. in Sta. Monica Municipality in Surigao del Norte. This issue has also impacted the implementation of the conditional support program of some LGUs such as the Emergency Shelter Assistance (ESA) program which requires IDPs to have a house or a piece of land for them to qualify as beneficiaries. This limitation already resulted to exclusion of some of the displaced families.
- f. In Siargao, the LGUs are having difficulties in finding a suitable location for relocation of the affected population due to lack of available lands. Based on initial consultations with LGUs, there are lands that they could use but these lands are expensive (i.e. in General Luna, Siargao). Further, some locations identified as potential sites had been assessed as inconducive or unsafe for relocation. According to data shared by DSWD Caraga, the Task Force Build Back Better had identified 1,966,070 sq.m. of potential land in Siargao Island for relocation of families which will potentially be affected by the No-Build Zone policy.

RESPONSES

- a. In Burgos Municipality in Siargao, the LGU began the strict implementation of the said policy and have disallowed the rebuilding of houses and return of IDPs in the affected areas. According to reports, there is already an approved plan for the relocation site in Brgy. Patag in Burgos but the details and specific date of the relocation has not been communicated to the affected families yet.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. For short-term support, provide temporary shelter support to severely affected families in areas declared as No-Build Zones. For long-term support, commence shelter-related and land use planning to facilitate rebuilding of damaged houses and infrastructures and timely relocation of those affected by No-Build Zone policy. While relocation plan is delayed and may take time to implement, the government should consider providing necessary assistance to families affected by the NBZ policy. Provide them with temporary shelter support and WASH facilities while waiting for their relocation.
- b. Support in advocating for the rights of the affected population especially those who are currently living within the proposed NBZ in any local inter-agency platform to ensure non-discrimination and provision of equitable emergency assistance, and due process during relocation.
- c. Conduct meaningful consultations and information campaign towards the affected communities about the risks faced in unsafe zones, their rights, and alternative options to ensure their dignified and safe return or relocation. To address the clamour of affected population about the “delay” of relocation program of the government, and other relevant humanitarian and development services, there should be an information dissemination mechanism to inform our POCs about plans and programs concerning them. This would provide our POCs with clear understanding on the status of the planned relocation, ongoing processes, and any causes of delays. Explore establishing a complaint mechanism or help desk at the local level who can support and provide referral, and clarification to the complaints of the IDPs and NBZ affected population.
- d. Ensure availability of basic services, particularly access to electricity and clean potable water, in the relocation sites as well as livelihoods opportunities, preferably in the same line of livelihoods they were engaged in before, to ensure sustainable income and rebuilding of the community.

ACCESS TO LIFELINES AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

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

ISSUES

- a. Electricity remains unavailable in some parts of Surigao Del Norte and Dinagat Island province. IDPs in home-based settings or returned sites have no proper source of lighting. This situation may pose safety and security risks to IDPs, especially to women and children, to the sick and the elderly, especially at night.
- b. There are still some displaced families whose houses have been totally damaged who were not able to return to their places of origin. In Sitio Iba of Barangay Datu, Pilar Municipality, Siargao Island, ten (10) families have built makeshift shelters using tarpaulins and salvaged materials along the national highway. These families are not able to return to their habitual residences due to the presence of debris in their areas. They continue to face potential safety and protection risks due to the unsafe location, inadequate shelter space and lack of access to basic services and humanitarian assistance. As expressed by the families, some of their pressing needs include food and water supply and access to sustainable livelihoods. Before the typhoon, these families used to be engaged in informal work such as home-based livelihoods, food vending, and selling of non-food items.

RESPONSES

- a. Electricity in San Jose Municipality in Dinagat Island had been fully restored, while the rest of municipalities are considered as partially restored including those in Siargao Island and the mainland of Surigao Del Norte and Surigao City. With regard to restoration of telecommunication networks, most of the service networks are already fully operational in the affected areas, specifically in Dinagat Islands and Surigao del Norte province.
- b. Siarelco (Siargao Electric Cooperative) is currently installing and fixing the damaged electric posts targeting to restore electricity supply in the remaining areas at the end of May.
- c. Below tables provide the status of the restoration of lifelines in the affected areas:

In terms electricity:

PROVINCE	STATUS		
	PARTIALLY RESTORED	FULLY RESTORED	FOR RESTORATION
Dinagat Islands	Dinagat, Loreto, Cagdianao, Basilisa, Tubajon, Libjo (Albor)	San Jose	
Surigao Del Norte (Mainland)	Alegria, Claver, Gigaquit, Mainit, Placer, Sison, Surigao City, Taganaan, Tubod, Bacuag		Malimono, San Francisco
Surigao Del Norte (Siargao)	Burgos, General Luna, Pilar, Del Carmen, San Isidro, San Benito, Santa Monica	Dapa, Socorro	

In terms of water supply

Area		Status
Dinagat Islands	Basilisa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water supply is already restored in all barangays
	Dinagat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Magsaysay and Wadas Refilling Stations are functional Brgy. Cab-ilan and Cabayawan depend on rainwater, people occasionally fetch water from nearby barangays Has 7 jetmatic pumps (center)
	Cagdianao	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% of main water supply are fully restored 20% of damaged wells are restored
	Loreto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water supply is already restored in all barangays
	Libjo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70% restored
	San Jose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Totally Restored
	Tubajon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Supply is already restored to all barangays
Surigao Del Norte	General Luna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 3 water source is operational since March 2022
	San Isidro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 3 water source operational since December 19, 2021
	Socorro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water sources are now repaired and are fully operational
	Entire Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water refilling stations are already operating Level 3 water source is partially operational
	Surigao City and Mainland LGUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major water sources incurred damages on their main pipelines and Water system resulting to lack of water supply. Some municipalities utilized deep well, springs and available reservoir. Surigao City water supply is fully restored.

- d. Based on DSWD Caraga's report dated 24 May 2022, a total of 123,238 beneficiaries in all affected provinces were provided with financial assistance through the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) program with a total amount of PHP 616,190,000.00. They have also facilitated the delivery of food and non-food items to the LGUs of Alegria, Surigao Del Norte (5,400 family food packs [FFPs] and 376 Kitchen Kits) and Bacuag, Surigao Del Norte (4,406 FFPs).
- e. As of May, a total of 345,958 Disaster Assistance Family Access Card (DAFAC) forms have been encoded with an accomplishment rate of 84.77% of the total affected families enabling service providers to know the needs of the affected. Despite this, there are still home-based IDPs who remain to be unaccounted for and have limited access to humanitarian assistance from government and humanitarian actors.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. While electricity restoration is still ongoing, provision of solar lamps/lights as alternative solution is needed to mitigate the risks being faced by affected families, especially women and children who are vulnerable to any type of gender and sexual violence. Priority should be given to those living in remote and island barangays without adequate access to lifelines and electricity.
- b. There is still a need to look into remaining humanitarian needs while in transition phase from emergency to early recovery, thus continued assessment of the needs for food aid especially concerning families whose livelihood sources and activities have not yet been fully restored should still be prioritized.
- c. Transition to recovery should focus on community development – livelihoods, strengthening of capacity, and disaster preparedness to further support self-reliance.
- d. There is a need to continue advocating for the inclusion of the home-based IDPs and other IDPs in informal settlements in government assistance programs. Relatedly, LGU assessments of home-based IDPs and those who are outside of evacuation centers must be strengthened.
- e. There is a need to continue advocacy for the inclusion of families who are renters/sharers but had been in the locality for several years to be considered in relocation projects and provision of shelter kits assistance.

ACCESS TO FOOD AID, NUTRITION & LIVELIHOOD

Ensure that IDPs receive a minimum basic food ration

ISSUES

- c. Limited food supply remains a concern for most of the IDPs due to the lack of access to various sources of income especially for those in the hardly hit barangays. Most of the families who had gone home rely on assistance from the government and humanitarian agencies, while those who are currently staying with their relatives rely on the food supply of their host families who are also affected by the typhoon. While host families are still able to fill in the gaps in providing support to the displaced families, prolonged hosting may strain their own food supply which may result to tension and conflict, as well as possible violent domestic situations.
- d. Lack of nutritious food poses potential decline on the nutritional condition of the affected population especially among children. The food assistance provided by the local government units are becoming limited and most of which consist of canned goods. Under the “Pamilya Mo, Pamilya Ko” (PMPK) program, the provincial government continues to provide food items prioritizing families in highly affected areas only.
- e. As expressed by most of the affected population, sustainable livelihoods is one of their priority needs that remain to be unaddressed. Most of their crops, specifically coconut, have been severely damaged by the typhoon. Most of the fisherfolks have also reported that their fishing gears and equipment have been damaged. Hence, there is a need for the Government to ensure inclusion of the re-establishment of livelihood in its recovery efforts to restore income capacity of the people to avoid reliance on food aid and prevent food insecurity and malnutrition. In addition, in the case of the displaced Bajau families, although there are few options explored for their relocation, they expressed concerns about where the relocation sites are situated since they are far from the seas, being their primary source of livelihood.

RESPONSES

- d. DSWD Caraga provided family food packs worth of PhP 212, 343,247.667, and plans to continue the provision of food aid to affected families as part of the 3rd-4th round of the assistance program. They are also in the process of collecting Food-For-Work project proposals from LGUs as part of the augmentation program of the DSWD Regional Field Office 13.

NEEDS / GAPS

- f. Government to focus on providing sustainable livelihood support prioritizing the most vulnerable and hardly hit areas. It should also be an integral part of relocation planning which should include meaningful consultations and inclusive processes with the affected communities. Without effective livelihood opportunities in new areas, people relocated will either stay and become poorer face worse economic conditions, and more vulnerable to disasters or leave, making them vulnerable to disasters.
- g. Support for the re-establishment of livelihood assets such as farm inputs for the farmers and fishing gears and equipment for the fisherfolks is needed to restore income capacity and avoid reliance on food aid.
- h. Sustainable livelihoods should be an integral part of the Government’s relocation planning. The process should ensure meaningful consultations and inclusive processes with the affected communities. Without effective livelihood opportunities in new areas, people relocated will either stay and become poorer face worse economic conditions, and more vulnerable to disasters or leave, making them vulnerable to disasters.

ACCESS TO WATER AND SANITATION	<i>Ensure sanitary facilities such as showers, toilets and washing areas are in place</i>
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ISSUES	
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- a. The water supply at Surigao del Norte National High School and Surigao City National High School ECs is not potable. Drinking water from refilling station in most of the affected areas costs P35-40 per liter.
- b. In Barangay Caub, Municipality of Del carmen, Siargao Islands, access to clean and potable water remains a challenge for community members. Residents rely mostly on unprotected wells and rainwater for daily use, sanitation and hygiene. For drinking water, members have to ride a motorboat to buy from the mainland or from sellers within the island. When Typhoon Odette (Rai) devastated the community, most of the motorboats were damaged, which resulted to increase in prices of commodities including drinking water. Also, some of the residents had to fetch water from the unprotected wells or rainwater and boil them to drink.
- c. Some of the residents have difficulty in accessing safe and sanitary toilets due to absence or insufficiency of water and damaged structures, there are few communal toilets for public use but still not enough for the community population ratio, some residents share the use of their family toilet only to their relatives. Safety of using communal toilet at night is not guaranteed as some purok in Brgy. Caub still does not have electricity. Currently, residents in the declared No-Build Zone areas and nearby sitios in Brgy. Caub are still waiting for the approval of the relocation site within the island, making the building or installation of their houses and latrines pending. In addition, the residents disposed their garbage through burning or burying since there is no garbage collection in the community since Typhoon Odette struck.

RESPONSES	
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- a. 502 households are targeted for WASH provision in Brgy. Caub. The LGU together with CARE, Phils. and ACCORD will facilitate the distribution of WASH kits. They will receive 2 jerry cans per household, drinking water vouchers, aqua tabs for WASH support with funding support from Bureau of Humanitarian Aid (BHA)-International Organization for Migration (IOM). While in Brgy. Baybay, Burgos, selected families are included as beneficiaries of the Building Back Safer Project which focuses on their safe rehabilitation and provides Shelter Kit Materials like G.I. sheets, nails, lumber, and latrine kit.
- b. A total of 1,000 households received hygiene kits in Barangay Orok, Cabongbongan, Trinidad, and Quezon in Surigao City. Hygiene kits include COVID19 essentials and personal hygiene items like soaps, toothpaste, alcohol, face mask, etc. The provision of hygiene kits was funded by Bureau of Humanitarian Aid (BHA)-International Organization for Migration (IOM).
- c. Hygiene promotion roll outs per barangay in Surigao City and Siargao, SDN conducted by the barangay health workers (BHW) is still ongoing. The hygiene promotion sessions include proper handwashing, reproductive health, F diagram, and dengue awareness topics.

NEEDS / GAPS	
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- a. Installation of temporary latrines with adequate water sources and lighting for families in the declared No-Build Zone areas.
- b. The council of Brgy. Caub expressed the immediate need of sustainable water system through provision of Rainwater Collector per household and installation of latrines.

ACCESS TO HEALTH	<i>Ensure that IDPs have access to basic health care and facilities during displacement</i>
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ISSUES	
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- a. Psychosocial support is among the identified needs of the affected populations. In the island barangays of Surigao City, barangay health centers are still damaged affecting immediate response to health needs of the affected population. Children in Surigao del Norte National High School Evacuation Center are not sufficiently being addressed by health workers and parents resorted to self-medication to cure their children.
- b. Barangay Caub, an island barangay in Del Carmen municipality, lacks maternity and birthing clinic. IDPs must travel to the mainland particularly in Dapa municipality, to be able to receive medical attention. However, the number of boats that are operational in the area is limited thus, posing potential risks to those about to give birth and severely ill people.
- c. Health care workers are reportedly overstretched due to competing priorities in covering the provision of routine and essential care, including vaccinations and controlling the spread of COVID-19.
- d. There are a limited number of maternity-waiting homes near hospitals for women living in far-flung communities. These homes will allow immediate attention and provision of emergency care to patients with pregnancy complications.

RESPONSES	
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- a. The Department of Health Caraga and local counterpart at the LGU level continuously providing health services in different municipalities in Surigao Del Norte and Dinagat Island provinces.
- b. Rural Health Unit of Cagdianao, Libjo and San Jose in Dinagat together with ACCORD conducted series of mobile medical missions to a total of 17 barangays for the three municipalities. The activity was supported by European Union Humanitarian Aid.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. Ensure health services to affected population in hard-to-reach Island barangays. They 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.

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

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

ISSUES

- a. IDPs have limited access to information from the Department of Education on the resumption of classes.

RESPONSES

- a. Humanitarian organizations continue to work with school divisions and local government units affected by the typhoon to re-open schools and child development centers despite the damaged infrastructure and learning materials.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. Integrate psychosocial support to ensure that aside from addressing the problems posed by hampered schooling, the mental health needs of the affected students are also met.

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. As previously reported, some households with members who have special needs and disability were able to receive shelter assistance consisting of tarpaulins and cash for shelter repair.

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 and recovery response.
- c. Response to ensure non-discrimination and provision of equitable emergency assistance (i.e., emergency shelter kits, food, WASH, protection) to IDPs including those that are currently within the proposed NBZ and temporary shelters/evacuation sites, in line with the leaving no one behind principle
- d. Cross-checking of beneficiary lists should take place to address both inclusion and concerns around exclusion of eligible beneficiaries – particularly vulnerable and marginalized sectors

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. Due to the limited support services available for children and their caregivers, there is an increased risk for sexual abuse and exploitation. For those who are still staying in evacuation centers, this situation is further compounded by the lack of electricity, proper lighting of the sanitation facilities, and lack of partition.
- b. There are very limited women and child-friendly spaces available in the evacuation sites to address psychosocial and mental health concerns of the IDPs.

- c. In Dinagat Islands, all the three district hospitals are severely damaged hindering the effective delivery of safe and confidential life-saving services to gender-based violence (GBV) victims-survivors.
- d. According to reports, there are pre-existing cases of human trafficking such as alleged prostitution of women and young girls in Surigao del Norte. Due to the lack of livelihood opportunities post disaster, women and adolescent girls are left with few real options which puts them at heightened risk for dangerous or potentially exploitative work.
- e. Technical capacity to handle and assist GBV, CICL and other related cases is very limited and a constant challenge. Municipal Social Workers are also short-handed as they are loaded in case management and other related concerns in the municipality.
- f. Limited to no available safe area to help ensure safety of the survivor/victim while case is under process or investigation. Safe area for conduct of investigation and interviews involving the victim and Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) is also a challenge. For instance, cases of sexual abuse to children were reported in the MSWD office in San Benito, Surigao del Norte, but filing of the case was not pursued due to hesitation of family members.

RESPONSES

- a. A series of psychosocial support (PSS) interventions were conducted to support the affected communities. The DSWD regional office conducted PSS in both the provinces of Surigao del Norte, and Dinagat. As reported, 50 individuals including personnel from DepEd, barangay LGUs, and volunteers, on the other hand, were trained on providing PSS.
- b. With support from CERF – UNFPA in partnership with Plan International, ACCORD and the local Social Welfare and Development Offices, Multi-Disciplinary Teams in San Benito, General Luna, and Dinagat Islands have convened, planned, and scheduled psychotherapy sessions and psychological evaluation to GBV victim-survivors. Referral Pathway IEC materials were also set up in public areas to provide information on where complaints about GBV cases can be reported. To provide a safe space for women to meet, discuss, and help each other, Women Friendly Spaces tents were also set up in the municipality of San Benito, General Luna of Siargao and Basilisa in Dinagat Islands. These tents can also be used as venues for trainings, counselling, and stress debriefing sessions for women.
- c. A total of 600 households already received dignity kits and solar lamps in General Luna and San Benito in Siargao Surigao del Norte. Dignity Kits generally contain menstrual pads, chamber pot, multiple pairs of underwear, whistle with lanyard, flashlight, comb, etc. all housed inside a bucket. Each of these items is catered to the specific needs of women and girls.

NEEDS / GAPS

- a. 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).
- b. 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)
- c. Sustain the Child Friendly spaces and referral pathways for CP and GBV cases.
- d. Safe space/shelter to help ensure safety of the survivor/victim while case is under process or investigation.

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
 - Assistance and Cooperation for Community Resilience and Development, Inc. (ACCORD)
 - 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, 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.