

The Mindanao Displacement Dashboard is a monthly publication of the Protection Cluster in Mindanao, Philippines, which is co-led by UNHCR with the Department of Social Welfare and Development. This publication aims to provide an overview of the protection environment of displacement incidents in Mindanao for each month. Displacement incidents were collected with the support of Protection Cluster members in Mindanao.



Clan Feud in Sumisip, Basilan

An undetermined number of people were displaced due to a clash between two families, in Sitio Langaray, Barangay Manual of Sumisip municipality in Basilan province on 05 October. Media reports, citing a local government official, said that the affected residents were forced to leave their homes for fear of getting caught in the crossfire. Five persons were also reportedly killed during the incident. The feud is said to be rooted in a dispute over land and properties.



Flash floods in Sultan Mastura, Maguindanao

A total of 474 families (2,370 individuals) evacuated from their homes on 13 October when flash floods hit the municipality of Sultan Mastura, in the province of Maguindanao. Continuous rain reportedly caused the Simuay River to overflow, isolating around 30 houses in six-foot deep water in Barangays Solon and Tariken. According to the Humanitarian Emergency Action and Response Team of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM-HEART), most of those who evacuated sought shelter with relatives. Others, however, opted not to leave and waited out the flood in their homes.

In addition, nine barangays in the municipality of Datu Montawal, Maguindanao province, were also flooded. According to reports from the local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices, low-lying areas in other municipalities of Maguindanao – particularly Datu Piang, Datu Salibo, Pagalungan, and Shariff Saydona Mustapha – and North Cotabato were also affected by the floods.

As of 31 October, all of the displaced families had reportedly returned to their homes.



Clan Feud in Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao

Fighting between two clans in Barangay Meti, in the municipality of Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao, triggered the displacement of 2,015 persons (403 families) on 20 October. As of 31 October, no further information was available on whether any of the IDPs had returned to their habitual residences. The Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council is monitoring the situation of the affected families.



AFP vs. BIFF in Midsayap, North Cotabato

On 21 October, a firefight broke out between Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) troops and members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) in Sitio Mirasol, Barangay Palongugen, in the municipality of Midsayap, North Cotabato, leading to the displacement of 33 families (107 individuals). Most of the IDPs sought refuge in the barangay hall of Barangay Bual Norte, in Midsayap.

According to the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, six houses were burned in connection with the incident. This has triggered fear and rumours of possible retaliation by local militia. As of the end of October, all displaced had returned to their habitual residences with the exception of those whose houses have been burned during the incident. They continue to be hosted by their relatives in Midsayap municipality.



Land Dispute in Matalam, North Cotabato

A land dispute between two private parties, who are affiliated with two different armed groups, escalated into an armed confrontation in Barangay Kilada, Matalam, North Cotabato, on 31 October. This led to the displacement of 172 families (860 persons), who sought refuge in designated evacuation sites within Barangay Kilada as well as in the Poblacion (town proper) of Matalam municipality.

The firefight also increased the tension in the nearby barangays of Kidama and Marbel, also in Matalam. Residents have reportedly packed their belongings and are prepared to evacuate in case the fighting spreads to or breaks out in their communities.

Armed encounters between the same parties had earlier triggered displacements in several barangays of Matalam in December 2015 and June 2016 (see: previous editions of the Monthly Displacement Dashboard and the IDP Protection Assessment Report dated June 07, 2016). Efforts are ongoing to peacefully settle the dispute, but so far, to no avail. As of this report, the 172 affected families remain displaced.



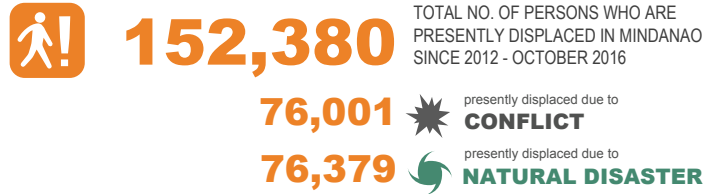
After being displaced last June 2016, some IDPs stayed in makeshift shelters at a designated evacuation site in Barangay Marbel, Matalam, North Cotabato. ©S.J. Tulon / UNHCR Cotabato



The *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* note that “internally displaced persons are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border.”

Durable Solutions - UNHCR with Protection Cluster members continue to identify communities that are subjected to protracted displacement over the course of the year to ensure all IDPs are identified and the appropriate attention and resources can be obtained to support finding a durable solution to their displacement.

CURRENT NUMBER OF IDPS IN NEED OF DURABLE SOLUTION



CLARIFICATIONS

Typhoon Pablo displacement - A large number of IDPs remain displaced from Typhoon Pablo in December 2012 in Eastern Mindanao, Region XI and are still in need of a durable solution. Many of these families remain in temporary shelters where local authorities have been slowly obtaining access to land and constructing permanent housing for these IDPs. As of October 2015, there are still an estimated 76,379 IDPs in need of a durable solution in this region.

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS CAUSING DISPLACEMENT IN 2016

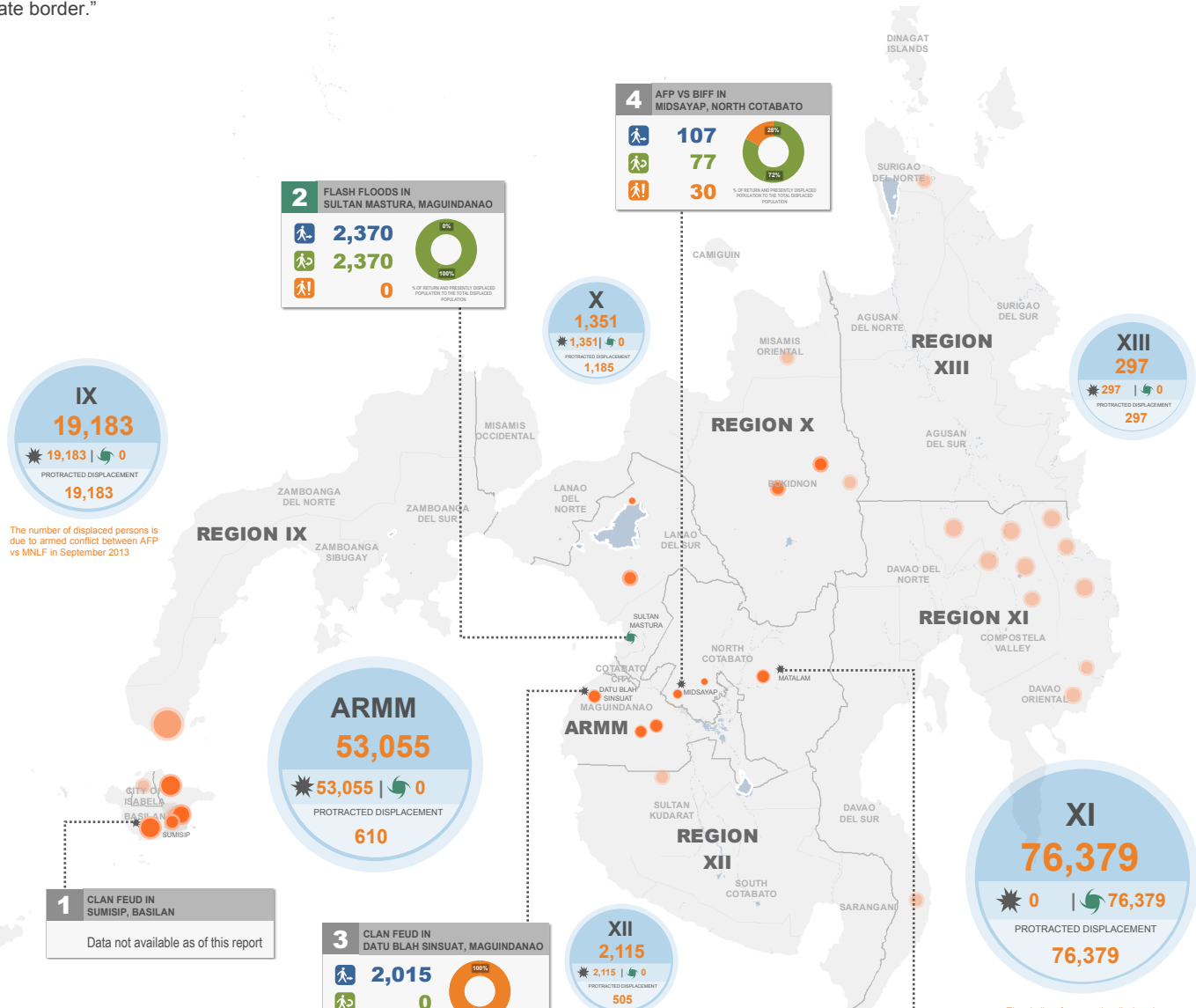
	TOTAL IN OCTOBER 2016		TOTAL SINCE JAN 2016	
	INCIDENTS	DISPLACEMENT (persons)	INCIDENTS	DISPLACEMENT (persons)
CONFLICT incidents with displacement	4	2,982	61	249,303
NATURAL DISASTER incidents with displacement	1	2,370	2	2,670

DISPLACEMENT MOVEMENT IN OCTOBER 2016 (see details in boxes)



* Not inclusive of displacement related to clan feud in Sumisip, Basilan due to absence of verified data.

LEGEND



The number of displaced persons is due to armed conflict between AFP vs MNLF in September 2013

The bulk of presently displaced persons is due to Typhoon Bopha (Pablo)