AFP vs ASG Conflict Al Barka, Basilan Issue No. 01 Incident Date: 24 March 2016



INCIDENT BACKGROUND

Since launching its Focused Military Operation in the island provinces early last year, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has continued its pursuit operations against members of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) and other lawless elements. On 24-26 March, the AFP along with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and the Barangay Police Action Team (BPAT) engaged the ASG in armed clashes at Barangay Danapah in the municipality of Al Barka, Basilan province causing some 1,755 families (estimated 7,021 persons) to flee their homes. As per ARMM-HEART's situation report dated 29 March, the number of displaced may be as high as 8,755 persons. In addition to displacement, the fighting also reportedly caused significant damage to civilian properties, including crops such as coconut trees and rubber, which are the main source of livelihoods for the conflict affected community.

CURRENT SITUATION

According to the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO), the fighting has affected six (6) barangays in Al Barka, namely: Barangay Danapah, some parts of Barangay Guinanta, Barangay Kailih, Barangay Linuan, Barangay Macalang, and Barangay Magcawa. As of 04 April, majority of the displaced families are staying with their relatives while others are being sheltered in identified evacuation centres such as Islamic schools, health centres and municipal halls.

According to a protection assessment conducted by local non-government organization (NGO) UnYPhil Women in the area on 26 March, identified immediate needs of the IDPs include food, medicine, hygiene kits, tents, and lighting equipment.

PROTECTION ISSUES AND RESPONSE

The areas mentioned are frequently affected by armed conflict resulting in displacement of civilians. Most often and as observed, the response is limited to reporting, documentation of families displaced and account of the incidents. Response on food, camp management, and other protection needs of IDPs during and after the displacement remains insufficient.

ISSUES	RESPONSES	WAYS FORWARD			
Threat to life, safety, and security					
Informal evacuation camps have no electricity which raises the risk of GBV.					
Access to food aid and nutrition					
Gap in terms of food is being reported.	According to verified information, as of 29 March, assistance has reached only to IDPs in two barangays.	Continue monitoring and liaising with MSWDO and MDRRMC to ensure that all IDPs have been covered in the response.			
Access to humanitarian assistance					
Instability and insecurity in the affected areas continue to hinder humanitarian actors in the delivery of assistance and undertake protection interventions.					
Camp coordination and camp management					
No proper camps/evacuation sites in some of the areas where the IDPs have sought temporary shelter especially in Barangay Magcawa.					

PERSONS OF CONCERN

					Location	(Origin)	Location (Current)					
No. of Fam	+/-	No. of Persons	+/-	Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Exact Location
95		380		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	MACALANG		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	MAGCAWA		HOME-BASED
55		220		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	MACALANG		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	MAGCAWA		HOME-BASED
110		440		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	DANAPAH		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	MAGCAWA		HOME-BASED
60		240		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	DANAPAH		BASILAN	LAMITAN CITY	MALINIS (POB)		HOME-BASED
50		200		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	DANAPAH		BASILAN	TIPO-TIPO	LIMBO-UPAS		HOME-BASED
235		945		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	LINUAN		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	MAGCAWA		HB/DAY CARE/MUN. HALL
65		260		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	GUINANTA		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	MAGCAWA		HB/MUN. HALL/ISLAMIC SCHOOL
Protection Cluster E-mail: https://www.commonwert.com/action/cluster/e-mail: https://www.commonwert.com/action/cluster/e-mail: https://www.commonwert.com/action/cluster/e-mail: https://www.commonwert.com/action/cluster/e-mail: https://www.commonwert.com/action/cluster/e-mail: https://www.commonwert.com/action/cluster/e-mail: https://www.com/action/cluster/e-mail: htt												

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180	720		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	GUINANTA	BASILAN	TIPO-TIPO	LIMBO-UPAS	HOME-BASED
160	640		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	GUINANTA	BASILAN	AL-BARKA	GUINANTA	HOME-BASED
185	736		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	KAILIH	BASILAN	AL-BARKA	MAGCAWA	HOME-BASED
90	360		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	KAILIH	BASILAN	AL-BARKA	GUINANTA	HOME-BASED
210	840		BASILAN	AL-BARKA	KAILIH	BASILAN	AL-BARKA	GUINANTA	HOME-BASED
260	1,040)	BASILAN	AL-BARKA	MAGCAWA	BASILAN	AL-BARKA	MAGCAWA	HOME-BASED

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

				Location (Displaced)			Lo	cation (Current)	Type (Please select one)			
No. of Fam	+/-	No. of Persons	+/-	Province	Municipality	Barangay	Province	Municipality	Barangay	Return	Relocation	Local Integration	

SOURCES:

Municipal Social Welfare and Development (MSWD) Office of Al-Barka Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council of Al-Barka **UnYPhil-Women**

The IDP Protection Assessment Form (IDPPAR)

The IDP Protection Assessment Form (IDPPAR) The IDP Protection Assessment Form aims to provide a starting point for information and analysis that can help humanitarian agencies, policy makers and other stakeholders concerning instances of forced displacement or solutions (repatriation, resettlement, integration). The number of people displaced/affected may differ from the number in need of humanitarian assistance. To the extent possible, the terminology used in the Dashboard reflects the *UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* and other sources of international law and practice. The information reported in the IDP Protection Assessment Forms has been received from members of the Protection Cluster across Mindanao. Consequently, unreported cases of forced displacement and solutions are not reflected. Updates will be provided as and when more information. At the end of every month, this data is compiled and distributed through the **'Protection Dashboard'**. The information provided in this IDP Assessment Report does not necessarily reflect the views of UNHCR or any individual member of the Protection Cluster (and the views of UNHCR). or any individual member of the Protection Cluster.

The Protection Cluster

In the Philippines, the protection cluster has been established by the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) Circular No 5 series of 10 May 2007 (Institutionalizing Cluster Approach in Philippine Disaster System). The cluster approach is part of a global response aimed at providing more timely and consistent help to the internally displaced and other affected people in complex emergencies and disasters. The Protection Cluster in Mindanao meets in Cotabato, Iligan, Davao and other cities on a regular basis. Currently there are over 100 participating agencies including from the Government, State, Civil Society, national and international NGOs and agencies, as well as the United Nations. For more information, please visit the Protection Cluster website http://www.protectioncluster.org/philippines/ or e-mail us at PHICOPRC@unhcr.org



AI-BARKA, BASILAN AFP VS ASG DISPLACEMENT MAP

