AFP vs Maute Group: Piagapo Displacement

Date: 24 April 2017

Issue No. 01

INCIDENT BACKGROUND

On 21 April 2017, at least 604 families (approximately 3,153 persons) were displaced in Piagapo and Balindong municipalities due to armed encounters between the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and alleged members of the Maute Group. A firefight erupted in Barangay Gacap, Piagapo municipality, Lanao del Sur province and later escalated to four barangays of the municipality and two neighboring barangays of Balindong municipality. In their military operations against the Maute Group, the AFP reportedly used a combination of aerial attacks and mortar shelling, targeting Barangays Gacap and Tapucan of Piagapo municipality. These barangays are believed to be where members of the group are hiding. An estimated 1,379 individuals were affected in these barangays.

As of this report, displaced families are staying in evacuation centers in the municipalities of Piagapo and Balindong, and in Marawi City. The Municipal Social Welfare Officers and other line agencies are continuously monitoring and validating reports in the affected areas.

CURRENT SITUATION

The situation remains volatile, and more civilians from Piagapo municipality continue to flee due to fear of further escalation of hostilities while the AFP operation is ongoing.

PROTECTION ISSUES AND RESPONSE

ISSUES	RESPONSES	WAYS FORWARD		
Threat to life, safety, and security				
Approximately 3,153 persons are displaced from four barangays of Piagapo municipality and 2 barangays of Balindong municipality.	The Municipal Local Government Unit (MLGU), Municipal Social Welfare and Development Offices (MSWDO) of Piagapo and Balindong, and non-government organization Community and Family Services International (CFSI) conducted an assessment to validate the numbers of displaced families and identify immediate needs and the protection risks faced by the IDPs.	MSWDO of respective municipalities to plan and conduct tracking and validation of the IDPs. Referral of the issues to concerned agencies for possible and immediate intervention to minimize effects of displacement.		
 Fear, panic and tension of civilian population due to aerial warfare and mortar shelling used by the AFP. Civilians are apprehensive of miscalculation in hitting targets, which might result in civilian properties getting hit and destroyed. One house in Brgy. Tapocan was totally damaged by an aerial strike. 	Residents of some barangays evacuated and took shelter with their relatives. Others sought refuge in safer areas such as the school and barangay hall. Information about the totally damaged house was reported to the LGU.	Refer these cases to the Regional Human Rights Commission and other appropriate agencies/organizations (e.g. International Committee of the Red Cross).		
Some of the residents reportedly observed mortar strikes allegedly being directed towards communities. Civilians are in panic and experienced anxiety.	Barangay Local Government Units of Tambo, Gacap and Tapocan, met and agreed to advocate with the AFP/armed actors to stop using aerial strikes and mortar.			
Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence				
At least 30% of the IDPs are children (mostly very young).	Affected families moved and prioritized securing their children to safer areas.	Conduct protection assessment on the condition of children in the		



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		evacuation centers.
		Refer to concerned cluster/ humanitarian stakeholders and Provincial Local Government Units.
		Activate an Ad Hoc Protection Working Group.
Access to food aid and nutrition		
Anxiety over food shortage. According to one of the IDPs, the relief assistance provided by the LGU will only last for 2 days.	778 food packs were distributed by LGU Piagapo and Provincial Government. The contents of the food pack include: 2 Gantang of rice or approximately 5 kilos, noodles, coffee, sugar and canned goods.	Lobby with LGU, ARMM Humanitarian Emergency Action and Response Team (HEART), DSWD Region XII and Office of Civil Defense for regular food assistance.
Access to water, sanitation, and hygiene		
There is a lack of latrines in the evacuation sites such as the old municipal hall, BRAC center and in other evacuation centers. There is limited supply of clean water in the evacuation centers. IDPs are worried about water shortage, and may be forced to move to other areas if the water	DOH visited and conducted an assessment in the evacuation sites.	Monitor the implementation of the action plan of the Provincial Health Office in response to the needs of the IDPs.
problem is not remedied. Men, women, children, and senior citizens use the water in the river in Sitio Bantog, Bayabao, which is less than 1 km away from the fighting site.		
Access to health		-
Undetermined number of elderly and persons with specific needs in the evacuation centers. IDPs observed that there are no pre-positioned medicines available on-site.	DOH conducted medical support (check-ups) for pregnant women and children.	Monitor the implementation of the action plan of the Provincial Health Office in response to the needs of the IDPs.
Access to education	I	
The BRAC school in Brgy Tapocan was reportedly hit and destroyed by mortar shelling.	Referred and reported to the LGU for documentation.	RHRC-ARRM to conduct documentation of possible cases of human rights violations.
Access to Livelihood		
No assessment conducted as to extent of damage, but majority of the population are farmers with corn and scallion as their major crops.	Livestock were moved by owners to safer areas.	Integrate livelihood needs into any assessments to be conducted
Non-Food Items (NFI)		I
Majority of the IDPs left their belongings and brought only very few household items. Some families were observed sharing kitchen utensils in one of the evacuation centers in Brgy Tambo.	As of this report, no non-food items were distributed yet.	Referral to ARMM-HEART, DSWD Region 12, OCD and municipal and provincial LGU
Mosquito nets were one of the immediate need expressed by the IDPs.		
Camp coordination and camp management		
As per observation, one room in the evacuation site is being occupied by 3-4 families.	BLGU Tambo facilitated and negotiated to the house owners in the barangay to use	Refer to LGU, CCCM cluster, and
rotection Cluster E-mail: phicoprc@unhcr.org I Teleph		2 P a q e

Safety and security concerns in the evacuation camp because the evacuation centers are just approximately 4 km away from the fire fight.

their houses as temporary shelters of the IDPs.

other concerned agencies.

RHRC-ARMM to ensure protection by presence (e.g. by deploying field staff or organizing activities)

PERSONS OF CONCERN

Location (Origin)			Location (Current)					
No. of Familie s	No. of Person s	Province	Municipalit Y	Barangay	Province	Municipality	Barangay	Exact Location
245	1,077	LDS	Piagapo	Tapokan	LDS	Piagapo	Tambo	Old. Mun. Hall, BRAC School Tambo,
54	652	LDS	Piagapo	Tapokan	LDS	Piagapo	Tambo	DRYER
11	75	LDS	Piagapo	Tapokan	LDS	Piagapo	Radapan	
55	161	LDS	Piagapo	Tapokan	LDS	Piagapo	Pantaon	
57	202	LDS	Piagapo	Gacap	LDS	Piagapo	Gacap	Masjid Gacap
20	116	LDS	Piagapo	Gacap	LDS	Piagapo	Tambo	Dryer
15	75	LDS	Piagapo	Gacap	LDS	Piagapo	Katumbacan	
14	76	LDS	Piagapo	Gacap	LDS	Piagapo	Mamaanun	
19	99	LDS	Piagapo	Tambo	LDS	Piagapo	Tambo	Old Mun. Hall
36	179	LDS	Balindong	Dado	LDS	Balindong	Dado Proper	
5	19	LDS	Balindong	Dado Proper	LDS	Balindong	Lumbac a Lalan	
28	137	LDS	Piagapo	Gacap	LDS	Balindong	Dado Proper	
19	103	LDS	Piagapo	Gacap	LDS	Balindong	Pagayawan	
22	157	LDS	Piagapo	Gacap	LDS	Balindong	Cadayonan	
3	21	LDS	Piagapo	Tapokan	LDS	Balindong	Dado Proper	
1	4	LDS	Piagapo	Tapokan	LDS	Balindong	Tomarompong	
604	3,153							

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

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

CONTACT PERSONS

Name	Designation	Organization	Contact No.
Mayor Ali Sumandar	Municipal Mayor	LGU-Piagapo	09188755755
Haron Manalocon	MDRRMO-Piagapo	LGU-Piagapo	09999282440
Kadija Miraato	MSWO-Piagapo	LGU-Piagapo	0917-7108-008/0933-8567-319
Noralyn Mamad	MPDC-Piagapo	LGU-Piagapo	0927-7989-343
Kalid RadiaSimban	Brgy. Chairman	BLGU-Tambo, Piagapo	0910-7337-186
Rohanida Ramos	MSWO-Wato Balindong	LGU-Wato Balindong	0927-5328-371
Buhary Macapanton	LSA IDP Focal Person	DSWD-ARMM LSA	0917 9865 215

SOURCES:

Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO) Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer (MSWDO) Balindong Municipality Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer (MSWDO) Piagapo Municipality Community and Family Services International (CFSI) DSWD-ARMM LSA Emergency Relief Focal Person

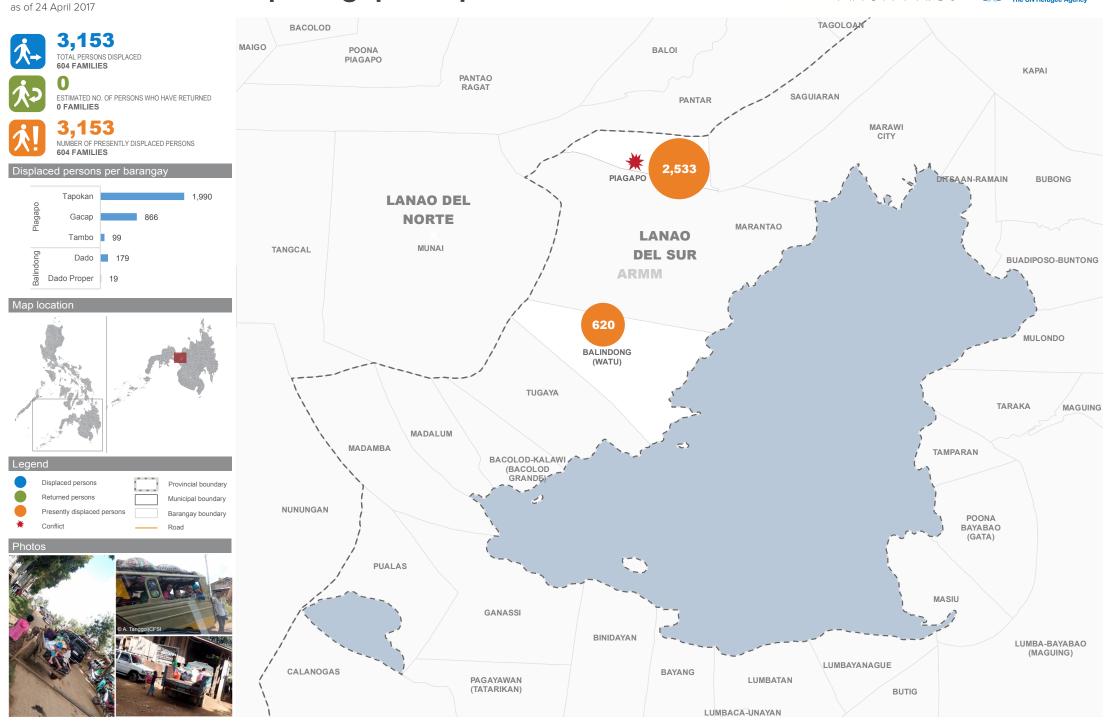
The IDP Protection Assessment Form

The IDP Protection Assessment Form The IDP Protection Assessment Form aims to provide a starting point for information and analysis that can help humanitarian agencies, policy makers and other stakeholders concerning instances of forced displacement or solutions (repatriation, resettlement, integration). The number of people displaced/affected may differ from the number in need of humanitarian assistance. To the extent possible, the terminology used in the Dashboard reflects the *UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* and other sources of international law and practice. The information reported in the IDP Protection Assessment Forms has been received from members of the Protection Cluster across Mindana. Consequently, unreported cases of forced displacement and solutions are not reflected. Updates will be provided as and when more information is received from members. Although efforts are made to verify the data, the Protection Cluster takes no responsibility for the incompleteness or inaccuracy of the information. At the end of every month, this data is compiled and distributed through the **'Protection Dashboard'**. The information provided in this IDP Assessment Report does not necessarily reflect the views of UNHCR or any individual member of the Protection Cluster.



The Protection Cluster In the Philippines, the protection cluster has been established by the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) Circular No 5 series of 10 May 2007 (Institutionalizing Cluster Approach in Philippine Disaster System). The cluster approach is part of a global response aimed at providing more timely and consistent help to the internally displaced and other

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SOURCES: Protection Cluster

FEEDBACK: phicoprc@unhcr.org

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