

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.



## AFP vs. ASG clashes in Basilan

A gunfight between the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and elements of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) erupted on 02 July 2016 at Barangay Magcawa in the municipality of Al-Barka, Basilan province. An estimated 2,311 families (13,927 persons) fled Barangay Magcawa to seek shelter with relatives in Barangay Guinanta in Al-Barka, and in Barangay Tipo-Tipo Proper. The escalation of the incident affected neighbouring barangays in Al-Barka, as well as some barangays in the municipalities of Tipo-Tipo and Ungkaya Pukan. Classes were suspended at all levels in Barangay Magcawa, and eleven schools in the West District of Tipo-Tipo also suspended their classes because of the security threat, leading to disruption in the education of over 2,600 students. A mosque and a civilian house reportedly sustained damage during the fighting. Due to the situation in the three affected municipalities, the provincial government declared a state of calamity. The Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office and the Integrated Provincial Health Office provided food and medical aid, respectively, to the affected families. During field assessments by Protection Cluster partners, some IDPs expressed concerns regarding access to adequate food in case of prolonged displacement.

Further armed confrontations between the AFP and ASG also occurred in the municipality of Tuburan, Basilan on 18 July, causing an undetermined number of residents to flee from their homes in Sitio Laputih and Sitio Umali to barangays Bohetambis Proper and Mahawid.



## AFP vs. NPA armed conflict in Davao Oriental

On 07 July 2016, an armed encounter between the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the New People's Army (NPA) resulted in the displacement of around 70 families (399 individuals) from Barangay Pichon, in the municipality of Caraga, Davao Oriental. Two civilians were reportedly wounded during the firefight, while a church and some civilian houses were damaged. Eight schools suspended their classes, hampering access to education for hundreds of students. The displaced persons sought refuge in various locations within the municipality of Caraga and in the adjacent municipality of Baganga.



## Military operations in Maguindanao

A total of 1,320 families (6,600 persons) fled their homes following a firefight between government forces and the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) on 13 July 2016. The incident affected several barangays in the province of Maguindanao, including Bagong Upam and Kuloy in Shariff Aguak municipality, and Meta in Datu Unsay municipality. Information from



A civilian house beside a day care center in Barangay Malangog, Datu Unsay, Maguindanao, was destroyed when hit by a mortar round during recent armed clashes.  
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protection partners also indicates that following this incident, an estimated 4,800 families (24,000 persons) pre-emptively evacuated from different barangays in the municipalities of Datu Salibo, Datu Saudi Ampatuan, Shariff Aguak, and Shariff Saydona Mustapha in anticipation of the escalation of fighting in the area.

Subsequent armed encounters that took place on 26-28 July in barangays Dapiawan and Kitango in Datu Saudi Ampatuan, Barangay Malangog in Datu Unsay, Barangay Dabenayan in Mamasapano, and barangays Pikeg and Pamalian in Shariff Saydona Mustapha caused further displacements. These incidents also affected Barangay Liab in Mamasapano and Barangay Pusao in Shariff Saydona Mustapha. By the end of July, the number of displaced was at least 6,304 families (estimated 30,535 individuals).

As of this report, the displaced families have sought refuge in various evacuation sites in seven municipalities of Maguindanao: Datu Abdullah Sangki, Datu Salibo, Datu Saudi Ampatuan, Datu Unsay, Mamasapano, Shariff Aguak, and Shariff Saydona Mustapha. Others are staying with host families in the same municipalities. Eight civilian casualties (three dead and five wounded, including minors in both casualty types) were reported. There were also reports of civilians temporarily getting trapped in areas where fighting occurred. Some civilian dwellings, as well as a school and a mosque, were damaged or destroyed. Occupation of civilian homes, as well as looting of household belongings, crops, and livestock, were also reported. The forced displacement, the use of some schools as evacuation sites, and, in one case, the proximity of a military encampment to a learning center, has resulted in the disruption of education for children in the affected communities. The respective Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices at municipal, provincial, and regional levels provided food assistance, with support from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao's Humanitarian Emergency Action and Response Team (ARMM-HEART). Fear of renewed clashes currently prevents most of the IDPs from permanently returning to their places of origin. IDPs also raise concerns regarding limited access to medical services and restrictions on their freedom of movement, resulting in loss of safe and sustainable access to their sources of livelihood.



### AFP vs ASG firefight in Sulu

On 29 July 2016, an armed confrontation between government troops and members of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) took place in Barangay Bud-Taran, in the municipality of Indanan, Sulu province. About 181 families (approximately 905 individuals) were displaced from Barangay Bud-Taran to the neighbouring barangays of Kuppong and Langpas. An unconfirmed number of civilians were reportedly killed or injured during the incident.



### Displacement of IP community in Bukidnon

Harassment by a paramilitary group led to the displacement of around 821 families (2,759 individuals) in Barangay Kawayan, San Fernando, Bukidnon on 30 July 2016. The affected families are members of the Tigwahanon community, an indigenous peoples (IP) group. Reports received from protection partners indicate that the paramilitary group indiscriminately fired at civilians, resulting in the death of a pregnant woman and injuries to at least seven people, including five minors. Families from nearby Sitio Sil-angon and Sitio Tibugawan also fled their homes and initially sought refuge in the village proper of Barangay Kawayan.

Because of continuing fear for their safety, 48 IDP families subsequently decided to leave Barangay Kawayan and transferred to the Capitol ground in Malaybalay City. They reportedly face issues with regard to adequate food and shelter, access to latrines, and disrupted school attendance for children. As of the end of July, the displaced families had received food assistance from a local organization, and distributions of food packs and non-food items by the DSWD have been planned.

The affected community had reportedly been receiving threats from the said paramilitary group for several months. Other members of the same IP group currently remain in an evacuation camp in Davao City, after being displaced in 2015 due to military operations in their communities.



A re-profiling and verification process for home-based IDPs, here conducted in Barangay Tetuan, Zamboanga City in July 2016, aims to facilitate their access to government assistance. © R. Maquilan | UNHCR Cotabato

### Update on protracted displacement in Zamboanga

Efforts to find durable solutions for those who continue to be displaced as a result of the 2013 Zamboanga siege continue. In addition to those staying with host families (home-based IDPs), as of 31 July, 2,505 families (13,914 persons) remain displaced in 11 transitory sites in Zamboanga City.

The City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO), with technical support from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), completed the re-profiling and verification of some 6,356 home-based IDP families on 29 July, and is in the process of validating the results. This process paves the way for home-based IDPs in Zamboanga to have improved access to government assistance through the various projects and recovery efforts being implemented.

Among the noteworthy developments in Zamboanga were the turn-over of 1,657 houses to displaced families under the Zamboanga City Roadmap to Reconstruction and Recovery (Z3R), and the employment of 71 IDPs and the training of 225 others through a livelihood project led by the CSWDO and the Department of Social Welfare and Development. In addition, 451 displaced children regained access to education with the opening of a composite school at the Mampang transitory site on 12 July.



Home-based IDPs line up at the City Social Welfare and Development Field Office in Barangay Sta. Barbara, Zamboanga City, for a re-profiling and verification activity held in July 2016. © R. Maquilan | UNHCR Cotabato

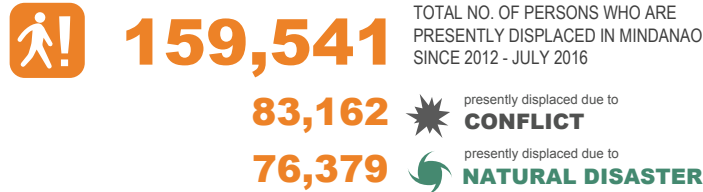
**DISCLAIMER**  
The Monthly Mindanao Displacement Dashboard aims to provide a starting point for information and analysis that can help protection agencies, policy makers and other stakeholders concerning instances of forced displacement or solutions (repatriation, resettlement, integration). The number 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 Monthly Mindanao Displacement Dashboard 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. Although efforts are made to verify the data, the UNHCR Mindanao, Philippines takes no responsibility for the incompleteness or inaccuracy of the information. The information provided in this Monthly Mindanao Displacement Dashboard does not necessarily reflect the views of UNHCR or any individual member of the Protection Cluster.



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



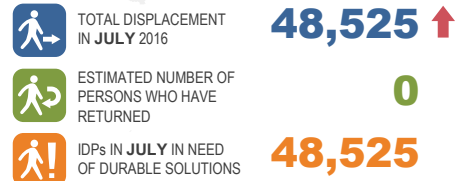
## CLARIFICATIONS

**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 JULY 2016		TOTAL SINCE JAN 2016	
	INCIDENTS	DISPLACEMENT (persons)	INCIDENTS	DISPLACEMENT (persons)
<b>CONFLICT</b> incidents with displacement	5	48,525	50	209,812
<b>NATURAL DISASTER</b> incidents with displacement	0	0	1	300

## DISPLACEMENT MOVEMENT IN JULY 2016 (see details in boxes)



## LEGEND

