

# IDP PROTECTION ASSESSMENT REPORT



Armed Confrontation and Displacement in Sumisip, Basilan (AFP vs ASG)

17 December 2017

Issue No. 01 dated 18 December 2017

## INCIDENT BACKGROUND

On 08 November 2017, an armed confrontation between the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and members of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) in Barangay Upper Cabengbeng, Sumisip, Basilan resulted in the displacement of a total of 775 individuals (155 families). While the AFP reportedly sustained six deaths and four injuries, no civilian casualties were reported. Members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front's Bangsamoro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF-BIAF) in the municipality were also reportedly involved in the confrontation.

According to local government sources, the displaced families are scattered, with most having evacuated to the homes of friends and relatives, while some have taken up temporary residence inside a local madrasah and a day care center.

## CURRENT SITUATION

While most of the IDPs are staying within Sumisip municipality, local government sources have also confirmed that 160 individuals (32 families) who were displaced from Upper Cabengbeng are currently located, in the neighbouring municipality in Al-Barka, most of whom are living with relatives or friends. Some displaced families have taken up temporary residence in a local madrasah, a day care center and the old barangay hall along the Upper Cabengbeng Highway.

Among the protection issues reported include limited food items being received by IDPs and the lack of livelihood opportunities while displaced. In addition, three IDPs - two children and one elderly person - were reported as suffering from diarrhea and are presently admitted in Isabela General Hospital.

Although government forces have already pulled out from the area and tensions have been defused, the currently displaced families have no plans of returning to their habitual residences, and authorities have stated that the situation is still volatile. The Provincial and Municipal Social Welfare and Development Offices concerned continue to provide humanitarian assistance through protection monitoring and referral to other concerned agencies.

The municipal local government unit of Sumisip, through a municipal council resolution, requested for the augmentation of the relief intervention.

## PROTECTION ISSUES AND RESPONSE

ISSUES	RESPONSES	WAYS FORWARD
<b>Threat to life, safety, and security</b>		
IDPs who are presently displaced are unable to return to their place of origin because of the continued presence of ASG in Upper Cabengbeng.	CFSI has referred the issue to the Mayor, Vice Mayor, MSDWO, MDRRMO, BLGU, RHRC, and NP.  The Military will call a meeting with the MILF on January 4, 2018 to discuss peace and order implications.	Continuous monitoring of the condition of the presently displaced families in Albarka and Upper Cabengbeng, Sumisip.
<b>Threat to liberty and freedom of movement</b>		
Continuous movement of the ASG and the MILF and potential response of the AFP in the area may expand and affect IDPs and residents in	Sumisip local government is continuously working to resolve the conflict through mediation and negotiation with military on the repositioning	Continuous monitoring of the situation.

current locations of displacement.	of the MILF in the area.	
<b>Access to food aid and nutrition</b>		
Limited food assistance. Interviewed IDPs have reported that they were able to receive relief assistance from private individuals and only on one occasion.	CFSI has conducted protection monitoring in the host areas and has referred monitored protection issues to the MSWDO.  Barangay local government of Upper Cabengbeng have provided food packs (3 kls of rice, 2 canned goods).	Continuous protection monitoring and follow-up. Referral of monitored protection issues to other agencies.
<b>Access to humanitarian Assistance</b>		
No interventions from the humanitarian agencies; immediate needs raised by the IDPs are food, livelihood support, and non-food items such as kitchen utensils and blankets.	Referred to the MSWDO	
<b>Access to health</b>		
Two IDPs are suffering from diarrhea. One is a minor and the other one is an elderly person.	IDP patients were brought to Isabela City Hospital by their family.	
<b>Access to education</b>		
Some learners are unable to go to school due to safety and security concerns in the area.		Follow-up with the local education authorities regarding access to education of affected learners.
<b>Access to information</b>		
A number of IDPs have moved to secondary places of displacement, resulting to varying results on the number of IDPs and placing IDPs at risk of being excluded from humanitarian assistance.	MSWDO and local NGO partners have agreed to work together to harmonize data to mitigate exclusion issues.	Continuous monitoring and verification of the IDP masterlist.
<b>Access to livelihoods</b>		
Most of the IDPs are prevented from carrying out livelihood activities due to the ongoing presence of the ASG in their barangay.		Advocacy regarding possible financial assistance and/or access to alternative livelihood sources during displacement.

## PERSONS OF CONCERN

No. of Fam	+/-	No. of Persons	+/-	Location (Origin)				Location (Current)				
				Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Province	Mun	Barangay	Sitio	Exact Location
123		615		Basilan	Sumisip	Upper Cabengbeng		Basilan	Sumisip	Upper CabengbengHig hway	Highway	Madrasah, daycare center, old barangay hall
32		160		Basilan	Sumisip	Upper Cabengbeng		Basilan	Albarka	Cambug	MILF Camp and residence	Houses of their relatives, madrasah, Multipurpose hall.

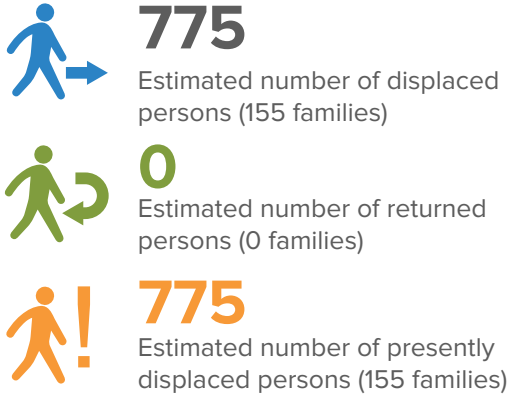
## SOURCES:

Sumisip MSWDO  
Sumisip Vice Mayor  
Upper Cabengbeng, Sumisip Punong Barangay  
Community and Family Services International (CFSI)

# IDPPAR: AFP VS ASG IN SUMISIP, BASILAN

Issue no. 1

## KEY FIGURES



## LEGEND

- Conflict Area
- Displaced Persons
- Presently Displaced Persons
- Municipal Boundary
- Barangay Boundary

## LOCATION MAP

