



From 23 January to 17 February 2015, IOM with the information provided by DSWD and other local partners, has been recording displacement caused by armed conflict and natural disaster (flooding)

**Armed conflict and natural disaster has so far displaced:**

**11,384 families or 58,742 individuals**

in Maguindanao and North Cotabato provinces

Map of Provinces in Maguindanao and North Cotabato © IOM 2015

## ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE SPECIAL ACTION FORCE AND ARMED GROUPS ERUPTS IN MAMASAPANO

### BACKGROUND

Due to the continued tension between the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF), since 9 February 2015, again a firefight has erupted between these groups at around 5:00 pm on Saturday, 13 February 2015 in the Barangays Buliok and Kalbugan, Pagalungan, Maguindanao Province. The conflict has affected thousands of civilians from the villages of Buliok, Kalbugan and Bagoinged, Pagalungan, Maguindanao, where internally displaced persons continue to flee their homes to avoid being caught in a cross fire.

Accordingly, BIFF members who were in a clash with Philippine National Police Special Action Force (PNP SAF) troopers in Mamasapano, Maguindanao, on 25 January 2015, were to cross North Cotabato from Maguindanao while the MILF troops have tried to block the BIFF armed forces, which turned into an armed confrontation. In brief, the BIFF opposed to the peace process, broke away from the MILF forces and has been mounting a quite number of attacks to dramatize their stand. On the other hand, the said firefighting also has something to do with the territorial conflict between a few commanders from both armed groups.

### INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Based on Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Humanitarian Emergency Assistance and Response Team (ARMM-HEART) official report and on the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDOs) from Pagalungan and Pikit municipalities, the matrix in the following page shows details on the number of IDPS, their current location, the type of location such as evacuation sites, their places of origin, among others.

**ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO IDPS**

Initial assistance given to the IDPs:

- 20 sacks of rice, 5 boxes of can goods and 5 boxes of noodles and 3 rolls of tarpaulins have been received by IDPs from LGU Pagalungan;
- 300 food packs have been distributed by ARMM-HEART; and
- The Department of Health-ARMM has dispatched medical team to conduct assessment on the health related needs.

According to the authorities, the armed elements still remain in Barangay Kalbugan, Pagalungan and fighting are still on-going. Per ARMM-HEART latest updates, classes were suspended in four elementary schools of Barangays Buliok, Kalbugan, Sapakan and Balungis, and two secondary schools of Barangays Buliok and Balongis, Pagalungan, Maguindanao due to the on-going skirmishes.

IOM mobile team has scheduled to conduct on-site assessment from 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2015 to further validate the IDP current condition and identify immediate needs and gaps of the IDPs using the DTM tools.

Province	Municipality	Location of IDPs	# of Families	# of Dependents	Total # of Individuals	Place of Origin/Remarks			
MAGUINDANAO	PAGALUNGAN	<i>Inside Evacuation Centers</i>							
		Municipal Compound	699	4,194		Brgy. Kalbugan			
		Old Market	520	3,120		Brgy. Buliok			
		Datu Udtog Matalam HS	13	78		Brgy. Pagalungan			
		Matalam Titayan	104	624		Brgys. Bagoinged, Kalbugan, Buliok, Kalbugan			
		<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,336</b>	<b>8,016</b>					
		<i>House based</i>							
		Brgy. Layog	22	132		Brgys. Kalbugan & Buliok			
		Brgy. Galakit	18	108		Brgy. Kalbugan			
		Brgy. Poblacion, Pagalungan	40	240		Brgys. Buliok, Kalbugan and Rajamuda			
		<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>480</b>					
		<b>SUB-TOTAL Pagulungan</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>8,496</b>					
		NORTH COTABATO	Pikit	<i>Inside Evacuation Centers</i>					
				Madrasah Bulol	251	722	973	Brgys. Kabasalan, Barungis, Bulol	
Fort Pikit Mahad	500			2,250	2,750	Brgys. Buliok, Barungis & Rajah Muda			
Inug-ug Productivity Center	30			120	150	Brgy. Buliok			
MI FPC Batulawan	20			95	115	Brgy. Buliok			
Poblacion Training Center	23			106	129	Brgys. Barungis, Bagoinged and Ka			
Mahad Batulawan Village	39			156	195	Brgys. Buliok & Kabasalan			
Inug-ug Brgy. Hall	10			40	50	Brgy. Buliok			
CBCS	5			9	14	Brgy. Buliok			
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>878</b>			<b>3,498</b>	<b>4,376</b>				
<i>House-Based</i>									
Sitio Balibet, Brgy. Bulol						Closed/transferred to Bulol HB			
Brgy. Bulol home-based	203			1028	1231	Brgys. Kabasalan and Barungis			
Brgy. Manaulanan	52			260	312	Closed/Transferred to Fort Pikit Mahad			
Brgy. Poblacion	161			724	885	Brgys. Kabasalan, Bagoinged & Buliok			
Brgy. Macabual	23			104	127	Brgys. Bulol & Kabasalan			
Brgy. Inug-ug HB	153			688	841	Brgys. Bagoinged, Kabasalan and Buliok			
Brgy. Fort Pikit HB	183			823	1006	Brgys. Barungis, Kabasalan & Buliok			
Sitio Caltan, Balong	73			185	258	Brgy. Kabasalan			
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>848</b>			<b>3,812</b>	<b>4,660</b>				
<b>SUB-TOTAL Pikit</b>	<b>1,726</b>			<b>7,310</b>	<b>9,036</b>				
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			<b>3,142</b>	<b>15,806</b>					

**IOM IN COTABATO**

Since the opening of the Cotabato Office in 2008, IOM has become one of the biggest humanitarian actors – leading emergency response for affected populations – in Mindanao. IOM Cotabato is currently implementing peace building and gender mainstreaming activities in partnership with Bangsamoro Development Agency (BDA), Bangsamoro Transition Commission (BTC), and Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), INGOs, NGOs, and civil society organizations.

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## References:

ARMM-HEART official report dated 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015

MWSDO/MSWO Pikit and Pagalungan municipalities official reports (as of 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015)



**DSWD**  
Department of Social Welfare and Development