



Map of the latest displacement overview in Central Mindanao © IOM 2015

CURRENT SITUATION

On 7 March, the Philippine Army, the Philippine Marines and the Philippine National Police launched a joint law enforcement operation against the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) in the town of Datu Unsay, Maguindanao. Only two weeks later, the joint law enforcement operation has spanned across 15 towns in Maguindanao, affecting 25,067 families or 125,302 persons as per map above and table below. The Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) Regional Government is spending approximately 13 million PHP (USD 290,000) weekly to address the needs, mainly on food assistance for the internally displaced persons (IDPs).



Women and children take the most burden in the displacement brought by the armed conflict between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters. These pictures show IDPs families in Nabundas Elementary School Evacuation Center, Shariff Saydona Mustapha (left) and Madia Evacuation Center, Datu Saudi Ampatuan (right) © IOM 2015

IOM ACTION

IOM has conducted activities as part of its continuing efforts to provide assistance to the IDPs affected by the conflict between the intensified law enforcement against the Bangsamoro Freedom Fighters (BIFF).

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Orientation for local government units (LGUs) – IOM Cotabato led a CCCM orientation for partners in the towns of Mamasapano, Shariff Aguak, Talitay, Guindulungan, Datu Saudi Ampatuan, and Datu Salibo. These LGUs have the highest IDP numbers. Participating in the 3-day activity, which started on 17 March, are LGU personnel with frontline functions in emergency response. IOM has previously organized CCCM trainings as part of building the capacities of partner LGUs in responding during emergency situations.

Partnership with Globe Telecom – Globe Telecom has partnered with IOM for the distribution of its 236 Non-food items (NFIs) to support affected families in Maguindanao. The target beneficiaries for these NFIs will be identified later this week. Globe Telecom also plans to provide free calls and text messaging services in some evacuation centres. With these free services to be provided by Globe, IDPs can inform relatives of their conditions and where they are at the moment.

Number of Displaced Population

Municipalities	# of affected		# of ECs	Inside ECs		Home-Based	
	Families	Persons		Families	Persons	Families	Persons
Shariff Saydona	2,670	13,350	6	2,670	13,350	-	-
Mamasapano	2,637	13,185	11	2,637	13,185	-	-
Datu Unsay	1,808	9,040	7	784	3,898	1,024	5,120
Shariff Aguak	2,774	13,870	10	2,774	13,870	-	-
Datu Salibo	2,576	12,880	8	2,576	12,880	-	-
Rajah Buayan	555	2,775	3	555	2,775	-	-
Datu Hoffer	79	362	2	79	362	-	-
Datu Saudi Ampatuan	3,459	17,295	11	2,284	11,420	1,175	5,875
Guindulungan	1,160	5,800	3	1,160	5,800	-	-
Talayan	2,358	11,790	5	2,166	10,380	192	960
Talitay	2,218	11,090	5	1,780	8,900	438	2,190
Datu Anggal Midtimbang	1,791	8,955	2	1,544	7,720	247	1,235
Datu Odin Sinsuat	110	550	-	-	-	110	550
Datu Piang	553	2,765	2	553	2,765	-	-
Datu Abdullah Sangki	319	1,595	-	319	1,595	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	25,067	125,302	75	21,881	108,900	3,186	15,930

References: ARMM HEART IDP Assessment Report (as of 21 March 2015, 5:30pm)

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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