

STS Nalgae (Paeng) Aftermath

Emergency Situation Report

Reporting Period: 29 October – 04 November 2022, Issue No. 1

CURRENT SITUATION



Photo taken on 29 October 2022 in Brgy. Kusiong, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte. Based on the report from the Bangsamoro Information Office (BIO), "Brgy. Kusiong is now 'ground zero' after it was buried in mud and rocks due to landslides caused by torrential rains." © BIO| M. Ibrahim

On 29 October 2022, Tropical Storm Nalgae, locally known as Paeng, hit the Philippines making its first landfall in Virac, Catanduanes in the Bicol Region. Based on the 04 November 2022 Disaster Response Operations Monitoring and Information Center (DROMIC) report from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), barely a week since its initial blow, around 4.8M individuals were affected all over the country wherein around 152,000 individuals are currently seeking refuge in 823 evacuation centers and around 896,000 individuals are temporarily staying with either family or friends outside evacuation centers. Based on the same report, a total of 28,311 houses were damaged, where 2,518 are totally damaged, while the remaining 25,793 are classified as partially damaged.

On 02 November 2022, President Marcos Jr. declared the four (4) regions hit the hardest by STS Nalgae under a state of calamity. These regions include Calabarzon, Bicol, Western Visayas, and the Bangsamoro

Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). Based on initial monitoring, several cities and municipalities in Mindanao were also reported to have issued resolutions declaring their areas under the state of calamity due to devastation brought by the typhoon.

In BARMM, joint rapid needs assessments by the government and humanitarian actors were conducted in various affected areas in Maguindanao and inter-agency meetings were called upon announcing the activation of the Clusters to work on the response plan out of the results of the conducted needs assessments.

Through the leadership of the Ministry of Social Services and Development (MSSD) in BARMM with the support of key Protection agencies including the UNHCR, UNICEF, and UNFPA, the Protection Cluster with the Child Protection (CP) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) sub-clusters had its first cluster meeting on 02 November 2022 to discuss the results of the joint rapid

needs assessments and to formulate a comprehensive response plan addressing the main protection issues identified.

Based on the report by the Bangsamoro Rapid Emergency Action on Disaster Incidence (BARM-READi) and the results of the joint rapid needs assessment conducted, lifeline services including electricity and water supply were disrupted in the affected areas. Due to the damage in roads and bridges, access to areas became difficult affecting the delivery of assistance by government and other humanitarian actors. Livelihoods were also affected due to impassable farm to market roads and damage to livestock and agriculture in the provinces of Maguindanao, Basilan and parts of Special Geographic Areas. The health of persons of concern is also at risk because of

overpopulated evacuation centers exposing IDPs to the threat of COVID-19 and other illnesses.

Having been the most affected in Mindanao, around 470,000 individuals were reported to have been displaced in BARM—all coming from the Provinces of Maguindanao. In the other regions of Mindanao, on the other hand, although not placed under a state of calamity by the national government, several displacements caused by the onslaught of the tropical storms still occurred. As of reporting, protection monitoring is continuously being conducted in coordination with various concerned regional line agencies in Mindanao and other humanitarian actors to bridge the gaps in terms of the protection needs of the affected individuals.

Displacement Map in Mindanao due to Severe Tropical Storm Nalgae (Paeng)



520,000

Estimated total no. of displaced individuals wherein **11% or 56,000** are staying inside evacuation centers while **89% or 464,000** are temporarily staying with either family or friends outside evacuation centers.



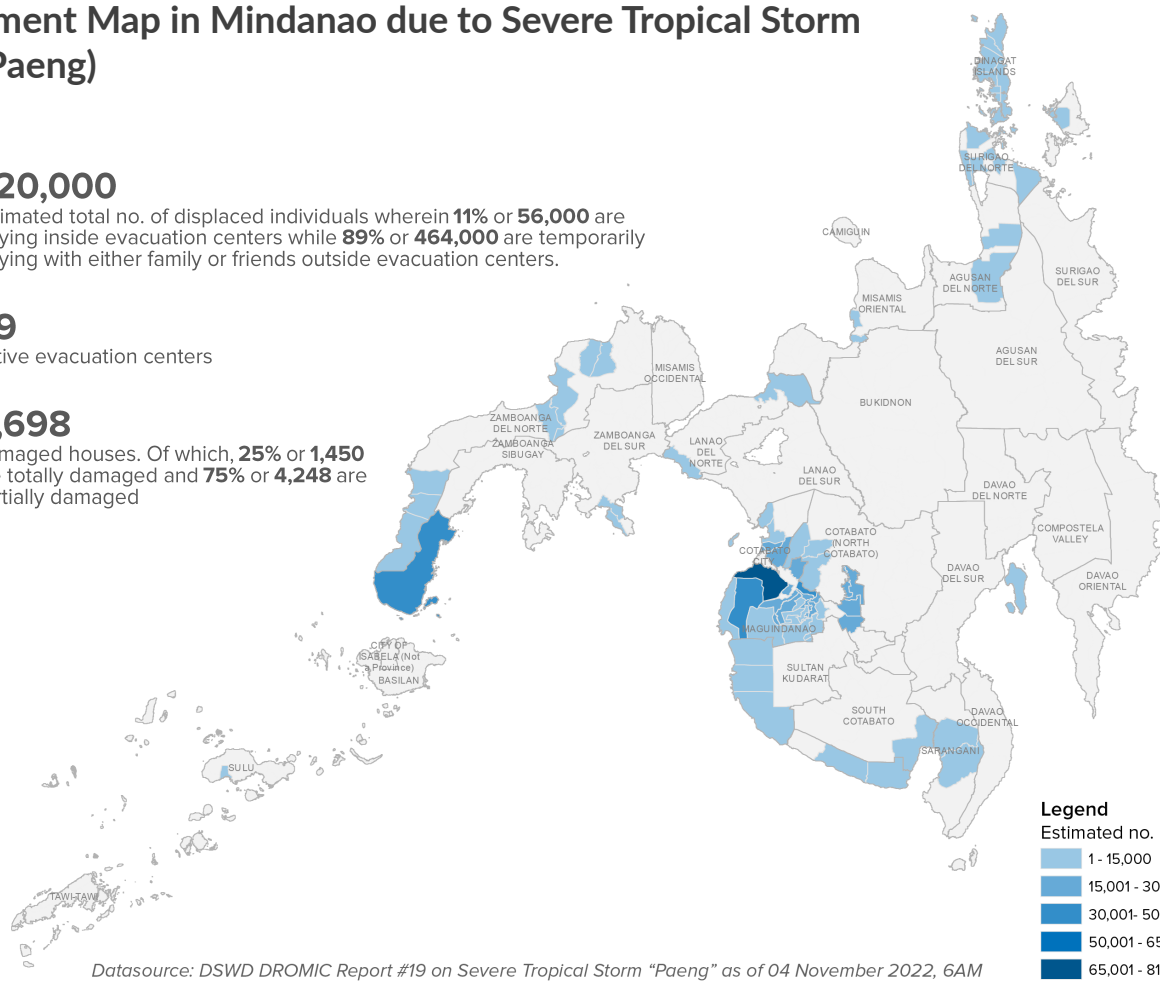
69

Active evacuation centers



5,698

Damaged houses. Of which, **25% or 1,450** are totally damaged and **75% or 4,248** are partially damaged



PROTECTION ISSUES AND NEEDS



Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence (CP-GBV)

1. In all the regions, there have been no cases on CP and GBV reported so far, however, the vulnerability of the IDPs to possible sexual exploitation, abuse and human trafficking is high. There is a need to increase the awareness of the IDPs and strengthen the capacity of the protection mechanisms at the barangay level to complement the existing GBV prevention and response at the province and region.

2. In Mamasapano, Maguindanao province, some young boys are engaged in informal livelihoods such as “bangkero” (boating/ boat operator) to help augment family income. (BARMM)

3. DSWD and the local government unit provided modular tents in evacuation centers in Palimbang and Lebak in the Province of Sultan Kudarat, in Midsayap and Pigcawayan in Cotabato Province, and in Municipalities of Sultan Kudarat and Ampatuan in Maguindanao. However, based on initial information gathered, IDPs expressed concern on the limited number of modular tents in Ampatuan. Only 14 modular tents were provided to cover at least 517 IDPs. According to reports, child and women-friendly spaces were also established in Palimbang, Sultan Kudarat. Considering the gaps, provision of additional modular tents as well as establishment of women and child-friendly spaces to existing evacuation centers are still recommended to reinforce preventive measures to address CP-GBV incidents. (BARMM & Region XII)

4. Some evacuation centers lack partitions posing an issue on privacy especially for women and girls making them vulnerable to GBV and other protection risks. Some evacuation centers also do not have established safe spaces for women and children to address their specific needs. (Region XII)

needing support for the repair of damaged houses and civil documents, and provision of non-food items. (Region IX)

3. Some affected families are living along the shorelines. It is recommended to facilitate temporary relocation of these families to mitigate the risks they face. (Region XII)



ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

1. In one evacuation centers in Datu Odin Sinsuat, IDPs reported to have difficulty getting relief assistance as the distribution point is far from where they are currently staying. (BARMM)

2. Food and non-food items were provided by provincial and local government units in Maguindanao to limited number of affected population due to limited resources. Some humanitarian groups and political personality also provided assistance of either food, non-food or unconditional cash grants. As of reporting, a significant number of IDPs are yet to be reached by such assistance. (BARMM)

3. In Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao, some indigenous groups have reported that they have not been included in the relief distribution by the Government. (BARMM)

4. In Maguindanao, damage of civil documentation was also reported by the affected population. As expressed by the IDPs, they worry that this may cause impact on their access to ongoing government aid distribution and other services. (BARMM)

5. The absence of proper information on the location of evacuation centers and the availability of assistance to the affected population has caused confusion to the IDPs as well as challenges in accessing interventions. (Region XII)

6. There is a lack of available data in evacuation centers where age, gender, and diversity are disaggregated making it a challenge for duty-bearers and humanitarian actors to provide appropriate interventions especially for vulnerable sectors such as children, lactating mothers, pregnant women, persons with disability (PWDs), and elderly. DSWD and the local government units provided an evacuation data board template to be posted in all active evacuation centers to facilitate a more



ACCESS TO SHELTER

1. In Barangay Pandi, Datu Salibo, Maguindanao in BARMM, 15 families have stayed in a makeshift shelter by the roadside. (BARMM)

2. The families whose houses were submerged with waters have sought refuge with their relatives while others are at the evacuation centers. It is reported that the floodwater caused damages to appliances, clothing, and important civil documents. Hence, the affected families are

PROTECTION ISSUES AND NEEDS

efficient provision of assistance. (Region XII)

7. Several students are stranded in Kabacan, North Cotabato. DSWD FO XII through the CIU-AICS extended PhP525,000 worth of financial assistance to 175 affected students. (Region XII)
8. In Caraga region, approximately 4,927 individuals were displaced in 16 cities/municipalities. Due to the nature of the emergency, DSWD Caraga strategically prepositioned 25,462 family food packs in the provinces of Surigao del Sur, Surigao del Norte, Agusan del Norte, and Dinagat Islands amounting to PhP 17M. (Caraga)



ACCESS TO LIVELIHOOD

1. Livelihood support is seen to be the top priority for early recovery of the affected families in Maguindanao province. Many lost their farm animals and products, newly planted crops were damaged by the flood. Hence, farmers would be needing farming capital to recover from the impact of the typhoon. (BARMM)
2. There are schools that serve as ECs which may hamper the upcoming implementation of the full face-to-face classes. There are also IDPs who reported that the school supplies of their children were destroyed by rain and flood water. (Region IX)
3. The City Agriculturist Office of Zamboanga City reported that more than 40 hectares of rice fields and vegetable farms with damage estimated to have reached around PhP 2M. Livelihood activities of farmers are affected. (Region IX)
4. Due to the onslaught of the typhoon, the livelihood of some fisherfolks and farmers in the municipalities of Glan, Maasim, and Maitum in the Province of Sarangani and Maguindanao province were affected. In Region XII, DSWD FO XII through CIU-AICS extended PhP 336,000 worth of financial assistance to these individuals. (Region XII and BARMM)

already returned and still in evacuation centers. In Maguindanao, water sources are deep well or water hand pumps but are contaminated with mud and is unsafe for domestic use. There were reports of diarrhea and water-borne disease is foreseen to increase should issues on access to water, hygiene and sanitation is not addressed. (BARMM)

2. Damaged and muddy roads made accessing basic services and humanitarian assistance more challenging in Shariff Aguak. (BARMM)
3. Water stagnation in the affected areas could possibly result in health issues among the affected population. (BARMM)
4. In Maguindanao province, there is a risk of dengue transmission due to stagnant floodwaters and lack of protective items such as mosquito net and repellants. There were reports of individuals who had experienced skin allergy, colds and diarrhea. Lack of medicines in some areas is being faced, including in Shariff Aguak municipality. The Integrated Provincial Health Office (IPHO) established a health post in Datu Odin Sinsuat municipality to address these issues. In some areas in Maguindanao provinces, families who returned are having issues with latrines as most were submerged in flood. There were reports of open defecation which may pose health risks. (BARMM)
5. Water supplies and latrines at the evacuation centers are insufficient. There are immediate needs on hygiene kits, potable water, toiletries, diapers for infants and toddlers, and sanitary napkins, and other sanitary essentials for women and girls. (Region IX)
6. Health protocols related to COVID-19 such as wearing of face masks and observing social distancing are not observed at the evacuation centers. The vulnerable sectors such as elderlies and children are at high risks of getting infected with COVID-19, water borne, and other contagious diseases. Medicines to common ailments are also needed. (Region IX)
7. The absence of information awareness materials in relation to COVID-19 makes persons of concern lenient regarding the minimum health protocols. Department of Health (DOH) already provided technical assistance in coming up with COVID-19 preventive measures. Production of IEC materials are still recommended to further prevent the spread of the virus especially in evacuation sites. (Region XII)



ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES AND WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

1. Included in the identified gaps are access to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities as the lack of such facility would pose a health risk to the persons of concern both for those who

PROTECTION ISSUES AND NEEDS

- There is limited number of trained mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) providers in some areas leaving a challenge when it comes to providing psychological first aid. DSWD and DOH trained Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) staff to add support to existing providers. It is recommended to identify trained MHPSS providers to augment in the provision of psychosocial interventions. (Region XII)

- Lack of lighting at the evacuation centers in Maguindanao pose risk to safety and security of the IDPs especially vulnerable groups such as children, women, elderly and PWD. (BARMM)



ACCESS TO CORE RELIEF ITEMS

In Maguindanao, cooking and kitchen utensils, sleeping materials, clothes, water containers and other basic commodities were either drifted by flood or damaged. Hence, families have difficulty coping with their daily conditions in evacuation centers and home-based settings. (BARMM)



CAMP COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT

- In Maguindanao, many of the evacuation centers are congested particularly in Datu Odin Sinsuat and Sultan Kudarat. There are evacuation centers that are in open space and lack partitioning that increase vulnerability to exploitation and abuse. There are those that have no proper ventilation and may pose health risk. (BARMM)
- Lack of camp manager and no information board in EC of Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao is seen as a problem regarding the access to information of the IDPs. (BARMM)



SAFETY AND SECURITY

In Maguindanao, missing or separated relatives is an issue faced by affected families. MSSD established a help desk and an incident command post in Datu Odin Sinsuat to help individuals locate their kins. (BARMM)

Houses were destroyed and roads were damaged Brgy. Kusiong, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte as a result of the STS Nalgae onslaught. © BIO| M. Ibrahim



HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT



Protection Monitoring and Mainstreaming. In coordination with other humanitarian actors, UNHCR is continuously conducting remote protection monitoring through the support of operational partners in all the regions in Mindanao especially in BARMM where the typhoon's aftermath was felt the most. UNHCR continues to provide a link to the duty-bearers and the rights-holders by documenting the issues of the persons of concern through the regular release of Situational Reports and IDP Protection Assessment Reports to government and humanitarian partners.

COORDINATION SUPPORT



IDP Protection Cluster Co-Leadership. As a co-lead of the Protection Cluster, UNHCR hosted and co-facilitated the first cluster meeting in Cotabato City on 02 November 2022. Attended by various government and humanitarian actors, the meeting discussed protection issues and gaps in relation to STS Nalgae. The findings and recommendations gathered from the meeting will form part of the regular IDP Protection Assessment Reports that will be released by the cluster to inform humanitarian actors regarding the protection needs of the persons of concern.



Information Management Support. In the BARMM region, UNHCR is heavily supporting the MSSD in terms of information management for a systematic approach in responding to the affected communities of STS Nalgae in the region. Aside from the regular release of the Mindanao Displacement Dashboards, an official displacement monitoring system called IDP Profiling and Response Tracking (IPART) is in the works between UNHCR and MSSD to facilitate an evidence-based approach in the Bangsamoro.

On 02 November 2022, meeting of the BARMM Protection Cluster, including the Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence sub-clusters led by the Ministry of Social Services and Development and co-facilitated and hosted by UNHCR, UNICEF, and UNFPA in Cotabato City following the STS Nalgae's devastation in Mindanao.

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