

# PHILIPPINES - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018

DECEMBER 20, 2017

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**353,921**

Displaced Population Registered With the GPH  
DSWD – December 3, 2017

**97,000**

Number of IDPs who Have Returned to Marawi and Surrounding Areas  
DSWD – December 10, 2017

**19,000**

People Residing in 66 Government-Designated Evacuation Centers  
DSWD – December 2017

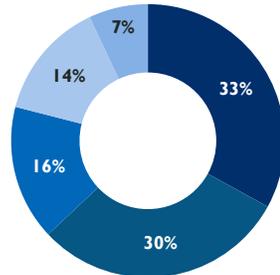
**60,000**

Number of IDPs From Heavily-Damaged Areas of Marawi Off-Limits for Returns  
DSWD – September 2017

**47**

Civilian Deaths  
GPH – October 2017

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2017



- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (33%)
- Shelter & Settlements (30%)
- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (16%)
- Protection (14%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (7%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- 97,000 people return to Marawi following the end of conflict; heavily-damaged areas remain off-limits
- IDPs and returnees lack access to adequate services, livelihoods
- USAID/OFDA provides support to vulnerable populations in Marawi and surrounding areas

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE PHILIPPINES RESPONSE IN FY 2017

USAID/OFDA	\$3,000,000
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**\$3,000,000**

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On October 23, the Government of the Philippines (GPH) announced the end of the five-month offensive against Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS)-affiliated armed groups in Marawi, the capital city of Lanao del Sur Province in the Philippines' Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. The GPH and relief actors are responding to continued humanitarian needs among internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees. As of December 3, the GPH had registered nearly 354,000 IDPs.
- Of the 354,000 registered IDPs, approximately 97,000 had returned to Marawi as of December 10, according to the GPH Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). However, the GPH continues to restrict returns to the most-affected *barangays*—the smallest administrative divisions in the Philippines—due to widespread damage and destruction of homes and ongoing protection risks.
- Lack of basic services and livelihood opportunities in Marawi continue to hinder IDP returns. In addition, relief actors report that displaced populations residing in informal sites and host communities lack sufficient access to basic services.
- In FY 2017, USAID/OFDA provided \$3 million to address the multi-sector needs of vulnerable populations in Marawi and neighboring areas, including through the provision of protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

## POPULATION DISPLACEMENT AND RETURNS

- The GPH-led offensive in Marawi prompted significant population displacement within Lanao del Sur and to the neighboring province of Lanao del Norte. As of December 3, the DSWD Disaster Assistance Family Access Card (DAFAC) registry—used by the GPH to track conflict-related displacement—had identified 354,000 IDPs, although the figure includes recently returned populations.
  - The GPH is facilitating phased, voluntary returns to less-affected and indirectly-affected areas of Marawi, and had opened 48 of Marawi’s 96 *barangays* deemed suitable for returns as of December 10. Approximately 18,500 households—or 97,000 people—had returned to 33 recently reopened *barangays* of Marawi as of December 10, the UN reports. However, the situation remains fluid, with some people opting to stay in evacuation centers or host communities outside Marawi at night due to the lack of livelihood opportunities, public utilities, schools, and services in the city, according to local authorities. To address the critical needs of returnees, the GPH is prioritizing unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance, provision of adequate services, and repair of critical infrastructure, local GPH officials report.
  - The GPH continues to prohibit IDP returns to Marawi’s 33 most-affected *barangays*, from where fighting displaced approximately 84,000 people. Included in this number are approximately 60,000 IDPs from 24 *barangays* that experienced the heaviest fighting, with homes completely destroyed, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
  - As of December 3, approximately 19,000 IDPs remained at 66 GPH-operated evacuation centers, representing a reduction of approximately 61 percent since mid-October, when more than 49,000 IDPs were sheltering in GPH evacuation centers. The majority of IDPs, however, continue to shelter at informal sites and with host communities, humanitarian actors report.
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## HEALTH AND WASH

- IDPs sheltering in informal sites and host communities lack sufficient access to safe drinking water, as well as water for domestic use, the UN reports. Additional challenges include inadequate latrine maintenance and insufficient hygiene supplies for displaced populations.
  - With USAID/OFDA support, Action Against Hunger (AAH) provided hygiene kits and water containers to nearly 4,000 households in five municipalities of Lanao del Sur from October 31–November 27. In addition, AAH provided two large water storage containers to facilitate the distribution of safe drinking water to returnees in reopened *barangays* of Marawi, where municipal water utilities were severely damaged during the conflict.
  - USAID/OFDA partner Plan International has provided emergency WASH assistance to affected populations in Lanao del Sur’s Marantao and Piagapo municipalities, distributing more than 4,500 hygiene kits and 4,500 water kits to IDPs as of October 30.
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## PROTECTION AND SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

- A recent child protection assessment in Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte led by the Protection Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders—found that IDPs retain relatively strong community coping mechanisms for spontaneous and informal foster care. However, IDPs in approximately 33 percent of displacement sites surveyed reported the presence of one or more unaccompanied children; displaced persons in 26 percent of sites reported children who remained separated from family; and IDPs in 19 percent of the sites reported the presence of children living alone. In addition, IDPs in 31 percent of sites reported the occurrence of early and forced marriages among the displaced population.
- Housing, property, and land tenure issues are complicating IDP returns, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports. Pursuant to a 1953 presidential proclamation, a significant portion of the city’s land is within military jurisdiction and without private land titling. Of approximately 14,000 displaced households surveyed by UNHCR, about 8,000 households reported owning a house; of these, only 25 percent possessed a land title.

- Relief actors continue to report protection concerns, including increased potential for gender-based violence, due to overcrowded evacuation centers. In response, USAID/OFDA partner Catholic Relief Services (CRS) had provided shelter assistance—including installation of private living areas, raised sleeping platforms, and shelter partitions for privacy—to nearly 2,100 IDPs residing in evacuation centers in Lanao del Norte’s Baloi municipality and Iligan City as of December 5. In addition, USAID/OFDA supported CRS and local partners to establish five child-friendly spaces, benefitting more than 400 children, and conduct protection and child protection trainings for nearly 240 people.
  - With support from USAID/OFDA and in coordination with GPH authorities and UNHCR, CRS had assisted more than 3,600 individuals to obtain PhilHealth cards—an official GPH-issued identification document that allows displaced persons to re-establish their identity and apply for other forms of government identification and benefits—as of December 5.
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## **FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION**

- The UN World Food Program (WFP) conducted an emergency food security assessment in late October, finding that 29 percent of IDPs displaced by conflict in Marawi are severely or moderately food insecure. In addition, average monthly income levels decreased by approximately 40 percent compared to pre-conflict levels, and food expenditures comprised the largest cost for nearly 40 percent of surveyed households.
  - WFP also screened nearly 440 children for malnutrition, finding that acute malnutrition affects approximately 8 percent of IDP children ages 6–59 months, with approximately 5 percent experiencing moderate acute malnutrition and 3 percent experiencing severe acute malnutrition.
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## **HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION AND LOGISTICS SUPPORT**

- GPH authorities are conducting emergency response activities through the Bangon Marawi Task Force (BMTF), the government body responsible for implementing response, reconstruction, and recovery operations, established in June. The GPH is facilitating IDP return by *barangay* clusters, with IDPs first returning to the least damaged *barangays*.
  - USAID/OFDA continues to promote humanitarian coordination between the BMTF and other GPH authorities, UN agencies, and NGOs through support for OCHA. In addition, USAID/OFDA is supporting WFP to assist the GPH to store, transport, and deliver emergency food assistance and other relief commodities to populations affected by the complex emergency in Marawi and surrounding areas.
  - To facilitate IDP returns, DSWD had provided approximately 21,600 people with return packages, including a one-month supply of food, \$100 in cash-based assistance through the DAFAC registry, and other relief items, as of mid-November, the UN reports. In partnership with the GPH, UN agencies and other relief actors had also provided food and safe drinking water for 18,000 returnees as of mid-November. In addition, humanitarian organizations supplied more than 110 vehicles to transfer returnees from evacuation centers to areas of origin.
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## **OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

- The UN issued a Resource Mobilization Request for \$43.7 million to support relief and early recovery efforts in Marawi and surrounding areas on November 24. As of November 24, international donors had provided approximately \$15.7 million in humanitarian funding for Marawi, according to OCHA.

## CONTEXT

- On May 23, 2017, the GPH launched a military and law enforcement operation against ISIS-affiliated armed groups in Marawi. The ensuing conflict generated significant population displacement from Marawi and humanitarian needs. With the GPH declaration of the end of combat operations on October 23, IDP returns to areas of origin began; however, due to damage and destruction to homes and infrastructure as well as ongoing UXO clearance in Marawi, humanitarian needs in IDP and returnee communities continue.
- Displacement has strained the resources of the GPH and host communities and exacerbated food insecurity and malnutrition levels among vulnerable populations in affected provinces. The GPH and local relief organizations are meeting many of the immediate humanitarian needs, and UN agencies and local and international NGOs are providing additional assistance, including health, shelter, and WASH services.
- On November 9, U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines Sung Kim redeclared a disaster for FY 2018 due to the complex emergency in Marawi and neighboring areas.
- USAID/OFDA staff in Bangkok, Thailand; Manila, Philippines; and Washington, D.C., continue to monitor the situation in coordination with USAID/Philippines, the U.S. Embassy in Manila, the GPH, and humanitarian partners.

### USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE MARAWI RESPONSE IN FY 2017<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
AAH	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lanao del Sur	\$600,000
CRS	Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur	\$1,250,000
Plan International	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Lanao del Sur	\$750,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$200,000
WFP	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Lanao del Sur	\$200,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$3,000,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE PHILIPPINES RESPONSE IN FY 2017</b>			<b>\$3,000,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 20, 2017.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.661.7710.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>