As of 10 November 2016

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is an information management tool used by IOM in partnership with local stakeholders to track information on displaced populations and the conditions in the areas where they have temporarily settled or have returned to their places of origin. The DTM has been rolled out in over 20 countries including Haiti, Pakistan, Mali, The Democratic Republic of Congo and the Philippines.

**Background**

Various armed conflicts and natural disasters such as cyclones and flooding have led to displacement of a number of people in Mindanao. As of early 2016, more than 167,000 people are internally displaced and remain in need of immediate assistance. Protracted displacement has caused severe and traumatic effects, particularly on children, who comprise more than half of all the recorded internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Due to recurring conflict and protracted displacement, children do not have access to safe and quality learning spaces or facilities. Many are in need of life saving assistance including nutritional and psychosocial support. Initial assessment also revealed that local capacities need to be enhanced to enable safe and quality education for conflict-affected children.

The “Safe and Quality Education Support to Conflict-affected Children in Mindanao, Philippines” – the Children of Peace Project – is funded by European Commission’s Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO). The 18-month project aims to contribute to the urgent need for child protection and resilience in conflict-affected areas by increasing access to, and sustain, safe and quality education.

The Children of Peace Project is implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in partnership with Assistance and Cooperation for Community Resilience and Development (ACCORD), a local NGO, and local government units (LGUs) in the intended sites.

**Demographics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Communities Assessed</th>
<th>Total Conflict Affected Families</th>
<th>Total Conflict Affected Individuals</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agusan del Sur</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>1,117</td>
<td>2,135</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bukidnon</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>740</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maguindanao</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>5,451</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zamboanga City</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>2,041</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DTM-Assessed Areas**

IDP Population by Age Groups

683 of 1,129 pregnant/breastfeeding women assessed in the four provinces (Agusan del Sur, Bukidnon, Maguindanao, Zamboanga City) can be found in Zamboanga City, followed by Maguindanao. It must be noted that a majority of IDPs, particularly women, covered in this round of DTM are located in Zamboanga City and Maguindanao. Female IDPs in Agusan del Sur and Bukidnon comprise only seven per cent of female IDPs.

Separated male children* in Zamboanga City have the biggest number with 284 individuals, as well as for separated female children with 185. However, these figures vary on the number of barangays assessed, where Zamboanga City has covered more barangays than other provinces. Only a few numbers of separated male and female children are found in Maguindanao province. No available data for Agusan del Sur and Bukidnon during this assessment period.

Female persons with disabilities (PWDs) have a bigger figure than male PWDs, in two provinces namely; Zamboanga and Maguindanao. Figures from Agusan del Sur and Bukidnon are still to be verified.

*Are those separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or customary primary care-giver, but not necessarily from other relatives. These may, therefore, include children accompanied by other adult family members. Children would mean everyone below 18 who are not necessarily in the custody of DSWD.
While many in the DTM-covered communities have returned home, a significant number of IDPs can still be located in 11 communities and are still living in evacuation centres, nearest barangay transitory sites, and nearby forest. Eight communities have mixed conditions, where some of the residents have experienced one or multiple displacement. Twelve communities on the other hand, no longer have IDPs.

The assessment reveals that all children have access to education and temporary learning spaces while living in the evacuation sites. Access to Temporary Learning Spaces

**Physical Health.** Children are physically vulnerable during displacements, making them susceptible to sickness, the most common in the displacement sites are water-borne diseases.

**Mental Health.** Conflict and displacement can be very traumatic and have harmful effects on a child’s mental health, affecting their learning and self-confidence. Experience of armed conflicts may also cause anxiety attacks during the post-conflict period. For example, some children show anxiety when they hear gunshots.

**Learning and Development.** Consequently, a child’s learning and development may also be affected. Disruption of classes during conflict may also hamper the completion of a child’s education. What is the effect of the conflict and displacement to the children’s nutrition?

**Nutrition.** School health records reveal that malnourishment is the main effect of displacement to children.
IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix
Mindanao Displacement Map
Date of Data: 2016-10-24 Date of Map: 2016-11-18 Map Code: DTM60001
Data Source: DTM Data - IOM, ACCORD; ESRI Topographic Basemap

Legend:
- Displacement Sites
- Families
- Individuals
- Female
- Male

Earl. HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community
The most urgent community education needs identified by the respondents in the DTM-covered areas are teaching supplies/kits (96%), repair of damaged buildings (65.5%) and safety and security of children and teachers (51.7%). It is important to note that while the DTM-covered areas have experienced armed conflict in the past years, there were no reported recruitment of child soldiers in these areas with no respondent (0%) identifying “demobilization of child soldiers” as an urgent concern of the community. Meanwhile, 57% of the respondents in the DTM-covered areas have identified “children needed at home to help family” as the biggest constraint to school attendance, closely followed by “no available resources for teachers/supplies” (53.6%), and security issues for children and teachers (50%).

**For more information, kindly contact:**

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