

COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATES

Philippines SitRep No. 6

27 August - 11 September 2020 Reporting Period



IOM Philippines Chief of Mission Kristin Dadey and New Zealand Ambassador to the Philippines, H.E. Peter Kell, sign their partnership agreement to support the COVID-19 response in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). ©IOM, 2020



In response to such multi-layered crisis (earthquakes, conflict and pandemic) IOM utilizes a multi-sectorial "Prepare, Prevent, Protect" (PPP) approach with the goal of mitigating the negative impact of COVID-19 on already vulnerable displaced communities. Each response is color coded to the areas the activities cover.

NUMBER OF RETURNING OVERSEAS FILIPINOS (ROF) BY MONTHLY TOTAL ARRIVALS

9 February - 10 September 2020

332,265



Source: DOH COVID-19 Response Report on ROFs

HIGHLIGHTS



2,049

Migrants supported with safe return



3,420 PPEs distributed



362

camp managers & IDP leaders trained



492Government staff trained in MHPSS & Protection



433
IDP families supported with cash-for-work



RISK COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



- Remote technical assistance and mentoring of camp managers were continuously conducted in 32 sites (16 in North Cotabato and 16 in Davao del Sur).
- · Initial coordination was carried out with the Bureau of Public Information Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) and Public Information Officer of MOH BARMM on hand washing awareness raising across BARMM.
- · Coordination meeting with the Ministry of Trade, Investment and Tourism (MTIT) was conducted on 02 September 2020, to identify focal persons for preparation and designing of the provincial/municipal-level emergency price monitoring training.



POINTS OF ENTRY



- IOM provided 28 vans to the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) in the past month (for a total of 123 vans since May) to support their swabbing operations at various testing and quarantine facilities around Metro Manila.
- IOM provided 33 buses to Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) in the past month (for a total of 103 buses since May, with 2,049 Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) served) to support the government's Hatid Tulong Program, providing onward transportation to OFWs to return home to their provinces.
- To facilitate a smooth initial handoff of the data management system, IOM is conducting systems management training to PCG IT staff.



INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL



IOM distributed 3,420 PPEs to OWWA, Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and PCG for their frontline personnel's use in daily operations. 1,000 face shields and 400 boxes of face masks will also be donated to OWWA and DSWD in the coming weeks for distribution to OFWs and LSIs at temporary shelters.



IOM and the German Ambassador to the Philippines, H.E. Anke Reiffenstuel, turn over PPEs to OWWA. ©IOM



PROTECTION

- IOM, in partnership with Philippine Red Cross (PRC), conducted a webinar to 263 DSWD and PCG frontline responders on Basic Psychosocial Skills for COVID-19 Responders, on 02 September. This training helped integrate psychosocial support skills into the responders' daily operations and provided practical advice on how to take care of their own well-being. A total of 492 frontline personnel have been trained on MHPSS and Protection since June.
- · As part of IOM's MHPSS programme, 233 IDPs in 23 sites have been identified as beneficiaries for engagement in positive coping activities (e.g. sewing of dignity items, crafting of PPEs, gardening). 48 IDPs from 5 different sites were trained on peer support and handling of MHPSS hotline.
- · A total of 650 modular tents have been delivered to Ministry of Social Services and Development (MSSD) in Zamboanga and on to their provincial offices in the Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi (BaSulTa) islands.



Left: An IDP uses the IOMinstalled hand washing facility in Balabag EC, Kidapawan City. ©IOM, 2020

Right: Camp managers and IDP leaders make their own camp set up at a CCCM training. ©IOM, 2020





CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT



- 190 IDP leaders were trained on CCCM principles with specific guidelines on COVID-19 in North Cotabato.
- 90 tarpaulins were distributed as emergency shelter for IDPs residing in poor conditions outside of evacuation centres in Davao del Sur.
- · Across the areas affected by the 2019 earthquakes in North Cotabato, site assessments were conducted in 17 displacement sites to identify facilities for repair and refurbishment. This includes repair of existing WASH facilities, construction of latrines, bathing cubicles, hand washing stations, rearrangement of tents, establishment of registration and screening at POE sites and improvement of distribution areas. 20 hand washing stations were delivered in Magsaysay, Davao del Sur. Further, IOM is organizing and strengthening WASH committees inside and outside of evacuation centers.



DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX (DTM)



The Returnee Survey will be rolled out by third week of September, in partnership with OWWA and various CSOs. The survey will collect critical data with regards to the experience of returning OFWs, intentions post-return and access to services to inform UN and government interventions.



ADDRESSING SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF THE CRISIS



- The final list of over 2,000 households to receive multi-purpose cash assistance in earthquake-affected areas has been validated and endorsed by LGUs.
- · Cash-for-Work (CfW) scheme has been adopted for the repair and refurbishment of WASH facilities in the displacement sites, to support socioeconomic recovery of the affected populations.

IOM's action to support migrants is supported with funding from:















