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casualties, people affected and damages to homes and infrastructures is expected to increase, as assessments are ongoing and the full impact of the earthquakes is being verified.

As of 19 November, over 23,000 homes are destroyed and 15,000 partially damaged, mostly in the municipalities of Makilala and Tulunan in North Cotabato. Evacuated families are concerned that their houses are structurally compromised. Many are staying in makeshift shelters next to their homes or in nearby open spaces such as roadsides, which exposes them to monsoon rains, hail storms, health and protection concerns. Because of the risks posed by additional landslides and damaged buildings, the entire population of eight barangays in Makilala had to be evacuated and moved to evacuation sites after the third earthquake. Considering the nature of the disaster and the structural damage to buildings and infrastructure, displacement in many affected areas is anticipated to continue for at least one year.

On 11 November, displaced families in two camps in Makilala had to be relocated when a hailstorm destroyed makeshift shelters and tents. According to the Philippines Weather Agency, up to three tropical cyclones might affect the Philippines until the end of the year, highlighting the urgent need to provide more sturdy shelter to affected families.

On 18 November, Central Mindanao was hit by another earthquake with the epicentre located near Kadingilan in the province of Bukidnon. The 5.9-magnitude earthquake was felt strongly in surrounding provinces, including previously affected areas of North Cotabato and Davao del Sur, but no major damages have been reported.

Supporting the Government led response

The national Government is leading response efforts, assisted by the Philippine Red Cross in deploying rescue teams, providing water, food, health and relief assistance. In line with local government code, several LGUs and government departments have issued bilateral requests for humanitarian assistance. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is distributing food and relief items to the affected families, and setting up temporary shelters and community kitchens. Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has established two mobile logistics hubs, each providing capacity to store relief items up to 1,600 cubic metric tons in Kidapawan City, North Cotabato province and Digos City, Davao del Sur.

As of 18 November, over Ph₱77 million (US$1.5 million) worth of assistance has been provided by DSWD, Department of Health (DOH) and Office of Civil Defense (OCD) to the affected families. Local authorities are coordinating with the Office of Civil Defense and the Philippine Air Force (PAF) on the transport of relief items to remote and hard-to-reach areas. Efforts by the private sector are complementing the response. The Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF), through its private sector members, has provided drinking water, shelter and non-food items, and transportation and logistical support. The government is planning to sustain its relief response until the end of the year. Humanitarian partners with a presence on the ground are assisting local authorities with rapid damage assessment and needs analysis, especially in remote and hard-to-access areas.

According to the Department of Education (DepEd) over Ph₱3.3 billion are required to rehabilitate more than 1,000 schools that were destroyed or sustained major damage during the earthquakes. DepEd has provided Ph₱90 million (US$1.78 million) worth of assistance, but has requested funds from the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) as the department’s Quick Response Fund has been depleted.

The Consolidated Assessment Report by the Mindanao Humanitarian Team (MHT) identified acute needs in the areas of emergency shelter, camp coordination and camp management (CCCM), water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and emergency education. The current lack of sufficient WASH facilities and subsequent poor sanitary conditions increase the risk of hygiene-related diseases. Initial assessments also highlighted increased protection risks and emphasized the need to prioritize sectoral interventions that are sensitive to and address people’s protection needs, particularly psychosocial support and counselling. With prolonged displacement, the importance of addressing needs in health, food security and agriculture, and nutrition is expected to increase.

The Humanitarian Country Team estimates that US$19.8 million are required to meet the priority needs of 139,000 people in need of assistance over the next six months. A Humanitarian Needs and Priorities (HNP) document was compiled by OCHA on behalf of the HCT from technical inputs provided by cluster lead agencies and drawing on a number of general and sectoral assessments conducted by partners over the past two weeks. The HNP has been discussed with the Office for Civil Defense and the Department of Social Welfare and Development, who concur with the priorities outlined and the role to be played by the HCT in supporting the government’s response. Protection interventions will be at the core of the response with additional key priorities in the areas of shelter, WASH, education, health and CCCM. Shelter is of particular
concern as the displaced population is exposed to incidents, including extreme weather conditions. A provisional CERF Rapid Response allocation was granted to jump-start life-saving relief efforts of locally-based humanitarian partners and prioritized clusters are refining their proposals.

The Mindanao Humanitarian Team is closely coordinating with the Central Coordination Center (CCC), Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the office for Rapid Emergency Action on Disaster Incidence of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (READI-BARMM), and authorities at municipal level on humanitarian needs, response gaps and operational challenges. Through the existing coordination platforms, the MHT has been requested by partners to support sectoral responses and address gaps.

Access, safety and security considerations

Damage in remote and upland areas as not yet been fully captured as access is constrained by landslides and damaged road networks. According to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), fault lines in the affected area are still active and further earthquakes or aftershocks in Central Mindanao are possible. Landslides in the affected areas remain a risk to the population as well as relief workers. Subsequent landslides were reported by relief organizations while conducting operations in Makilala. Heavy rainfall with flooding and landslides in the target areas is expected and might decrease the speed and efficiency of operations. Destroyed infrastructure and limited communication in some affected areas pose additional operational challenges. Security is of potential concern given the remoteness of some affected villages. Cotabato is also one of the provinces with the most security incidents as a result of frequent clashes between the New People’s Army (NPA) and government forces. Martial Law, which was imposed in early 2017, will remain in effect in Mindanao at least until the end of 2019. The Department of National Defense issued an instruction to set up check points in areas affected by the earthquakes in Davao del Sur and Cotabato in order to “control the ingress and egress of people in evacuation centers to ensure only legitimate and authorized relief workers are granted access to the evacuation centers”.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Protection including Child Protection and Prevention of Gender-Based Violence

Needs:

- 61,000 people (36,000 children, 24,000 parents/caregivers) require CP sub-cluster support including child friendly spaces, education in emergency, mapping of service providers, case referral, family tracing and reunification processes, and psychosocial support.
- 59,000 (32,000 women of reproductive age and 27,000 adolescents) people require PGBV sub-cluster support including Psychological First Aid and Psychosocial support for IDPs (in particular women, young girls and youth), mobilization of community protection mechanisms, availability of GBV services including accessible clinical services for the management of rape, and prevention education.

Response:

Protection, including PGBV

- DSWD Region XII has activated the Protection Cluster and will convene Protection actors on a weekly basis.
- UNHCR project partners conducted initial assessment of 13 evacuation centres/barangays in the municipalities of Kidapawan (1), Makilala (5), Tulunan (4), M’lang (1), Magpet (1) and Magsaysay, Davao del Sur (1).
- UNHCR and its project partner, CFSI are engaged in IDP needs and protection assessment covering different affected areas in Tulunan, M’lang and Makilala. This assessment was undertaken in cooperation with the MDRRMOs of the LGUs assessed and findings were shared with the Protection Cluster and MHT. Subsequent protection initiatives will be informed by these findings and ongoing feedback from the field.
- 13,635 people/2,727 families affected in Tulunan (Bacong, Daig, Magbok & Paraiso), M’lang (New Esperanza/Covered Court EC) & Makilala (Bato, Buhay, Sto. Nino & Indangan) received CRIs (blankets) by CFSI together with UNHCR.
- UNFPA has donated 875 dignity kits (includes flashlights and whistles) to the Cotabato Provincial Hospital which distributed it to 875 pregnant and lactating women (PLW).

Child protection

- Child Protection Working Group members conducted rapid assessments in quake affected municipalities including data gathering on affected children. Data consolidation is still on-going.
UNICEF is in discussion with DSWD Region XII and Regional Sub-Committee for the welfare of Children conducted for the activation of the Regional Child Protection Working Group coordination at the provincial level.

1,721 children in Kidapawan, Tulunan, and Makilala were provided with psychosocial support services by Batang Star Philippines and World Vision.

25 teachers and five community volunteers received Psychological First Aid (PFA) by Save the Children.

The cluster conducts continuous monitoring and reporting of possible child protection issues including gender-based violence in quake-affected communities and in school environments.

Gaps & Constraints:

Gaps
- The nearest functional Women and Children Protection Unit (WCPU) for clinical management of rape is at Cotabato Regional Medical Centre (122 km/two hours away from affected areas). A mobile WCPU unit could fill that gap.
- Only 15% of the estimated affected children were provided with psychosocial support through child friendly spaces and mobile animators (in community and school-based settings).
- An unidentified number of IDPs are not yet registered at ECs and thus are ineligible for receiving relief goods. This places them at risk for sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA).
- Inadequate water supply and an insufficient number of sanitation facilities puts women and girls at risk who have to walk to the river to fetch water or take a bath.

Constraints
- At the time of this report, only a limited number of protection-specific assessments have been conducted resulting in lack of sex and age disaggregated data on children affected by the earthquake.
- There is an urgent need to map service providers and establish child protection including gender-based violence case referral and follow-up.
- Child Protection Working Group (RCPWG) coordination not yet activated in Region XII.
- Some service providers conduct one-time activities with children and label it as PSS-interventions.
- Limited funding to conduct child protection activities (PSS, CFS) and PFA and stress debriefing for children, parents/caregivers, teachers and responders from LGU/concerned line agencies.
- The areas affected in Tulunan are close to the Makilala-Malungon fault line, increasing the risks for additional earthquakes. IDPs in Poblacion EC are from major landslide prone areas and located in No-Build-Zones, which may prevent their return. In the Covered Court EC, 45 families are living in cramped conditions, making them vulnerable to water-borne diseases, pulmonary infections, and skin ailments.

Shelter & Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

Needs:
- 100,000 displaced people/20,000 families inside 30 ECs and in spontaneous settlements outside ECs required Shelter and CCCM cluster support including emergency shelters (tents and tarpaulins), essential household items, drainage systems, electricity supply, technical assistance to rebuild homes, EC care and maintenance, and ongoing displacement tracking and needs assessments.

Response:

CCCM
- Assessment of 73 evacuation sites through the Displacement Tracking Matrix, representing 27% of total number of sites.
- 55 local DRRM council members and 60 IDP leaders provided with CCCM technical assistance.
- 14,625 displaced people/2,925 families covered by established IDP-led site governance structures with sectoral committees; and site planning to improve safety and security in 18 sites across Magsaysay, Makilala, Kidapawan and Tulunan.
- 424 people (46 male adults, 82 female adults, 114 male children and 182 female children) reached with psycho-social services in 16 sites across Magsaysay, Makilala, Kidapawan and Tulunan.
- Distribution of 18 site management kits (including foldable table, chairs, information board, stationery).

Shelter
- 5,195 people/1,039 families (461 families in Tulunan, 539 in Kidapawan and 39 in Makilala) provided with emergency shelter kits.
Gaps & Constraints:

**Gaps**
- Most tarpaulins for makeshift shelters provided by humanitarian actors are not shelter-grade. This provides a false impression that emergency shelter needs are addressed, but these tarpaulins will tear apart very easily and require replacement soon.

**Constraints**
- Remoteness of certain affected locations, including the earthquakes epicentre in barangay Daig, Tulunan, affects the timeliness and the cost of relief activities.
- To access certain areas humanitarian actors are required to be escorted by army vehicles due to the presence of armed groups.
- Overall lack of funding to meet the needs for CCCM and shelter, considering the anticipated long-term displacement.
- The mandatory evacuation of thousands of families from areas that are considered no-return zones due to landslide risk, entails the future need to relocate entire communities. This will trigger frustration among displaced communities and will highlight difficulties in identifying suitable relocation areas.

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

### Needs:
- 55,000 displaced people/10,000 families in ECs or staying in home-based settings require WASH cluster support including sustained access to safe drinking and domestic water, availability of sufficient sanitation facilities (latrines, handwashing stations, washing and bathing areas, etc.), maintain good hygiene especially those that are most vulnerable (women and girls, differently-abled persons, older people) and currently displaced by the earthquake, sufficient WASH facilities at ECs and TLS, intensified hygiene promotion campaigns on key WASH messages, and critical hygiene supplies.

### Response:
- WASH Cluster partners have so far distributed water kits (water containers with disinfectants) to at least 9,000 people/1,800 families in Davao del Sur and North Cotabato provinces; some more distributions are ongoing or planned in the coming days.
- 830,208 litres of safe and clean water have been provided to more than 22,000 people/4,400 families mainly through water treatment and distribution systems set up by the Philippine Red Cross in most affected areas in Davao del Sur and North Cotabato provinces.
- Portable toilets and bathing cubicles for 2,311 people were set up by the Philippine Red Cross in major evacuation camps in the affected municipalities.
- 4,735 people/947 families have received hygiene-dignity kits from WASH Cluster partners. More distributions are ongoing or planned in the coming days.
- 3,887 people/777 families participated in hygiene promotion activities of the Philippine Red Cross in Davao del Sur.
- UNICEF provided 3,000 water kits and health-dignity kits to the Provincial Health Office (PHO) of North Cotabato for further distribution to affected households in the province.

### Gaps & Constraints:
- WASH coordination mechanisms, complemented by functioning information management system, are only now being set up both at the provincial and municipal levels.
- WASH focal persons at the local government levels has not received training on WASH in emergencies.
- Funding has been limited for most of the WASH cluster partners.

## Health and Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH)

### Needs:
- 139,000 people (17,200 children under 5 years, 10,110 elderly persons above 60 years, 35,000 women of reproductive health and an estimated 2,000 pregnant women) require Health and SRH cluster support including medicine for common illnesses, general health and SRH services for pregnant women and lactating mothers, counselling and commodities for those in need of family planning, referral mechanisms, and facilities for complicated deliveries.
Response: *(number of beneficiaries reached not available)*

- UNFPA provided an Emergency Maternity Tent Facility to the Provincial Health Office to be deployed in most affected area with a destroyed Regional Health Unit (RHU).
- UNFPA also provided medical supplies to DOH Region XII to augment response efforts.
- UNICEF provided hygiene kits in select evacuation centres.
- Philippine Red Cross provided psychosocial support.
- Pregnant and lactating mothers have been provided with dignity kits and maternity packs.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Lack of functional temporary health facilities (e.g. birthing facility) in most affected areas.
- Limited number of mobilized health staff from LGUs as most health personnel is also part of the affected population and in need of assistance.
- Shortages of medicine and drugs in referral hospitals and other RHUs.
- All MHPSS interventions should be closely coordinated with DOH
- Compiling disaggregated numbers on people reached per activity in each barangay remains a challenge and increases the risk for blind spots in the interventions.

Education

Needs:

- 82,000 people (72,000 learners enrolled in affected schools in most affected schools, 10,000 children in early learning centres) require Education cluster support including temporary learning spaces, (early) learning kits, materials for alternative delivery modalities, psychosocial support, emergency school feeding, and supervised neighbourhood play (SNP).

Response:

- The Department of Education (DepEd) requested Cluster members to standby for immediate provision of assistance to affected schools. In the meantime, members are working on securing resources to support the response in the education sector.
- DepEd XII together with ChildFund has conducted psychological first aid (PFA) sessions to 11,330 learners and 2,682 personnel in North Cotabato.
- High school students have been provided with a total of 37 temporary learning spaces (TLS), 13 tents, 10 sets of school in a box; 210 sets of back to school kits; five sets of teacher’s kit; and six sets of recreation kits.
- World Vision has provided four TLS in Makilala and one TLS in Tulunan.
- Save the Children has provided two TLS, two teachers’ kits, and 13 tents.
- UNICEF has deployed 30 TLS, 10 schools in a box, and six recreation kits to DepEd North Cotabato covering the municipalities of M’laang, Makilala, and Tulunan which benefitted at least 3,407 learners enrolled in affected schools.

Gaps & Constraints:

**Gaps**

- Early learners (three to four-year-old children) and child development workers (CWDs) remain in need of PFA.
- DepEd already allocated budget for 440 TLS but procurement and implementation will likely take at least a month. Additional 401 TLS are still needed to meet education needs.
- More than 400 WASH facilities need to be installed in the established TLS.
- More than 70,000 learners still require psychosocial support and services.

**Constraints**

- Continuation of early learning sessions still indefinite due to damaged and unsafe day care centres (148); and unavailable learning materials.
- Some cluster members lack supplies (e.g., TLS, learning kits) sufficient funding.
**Food Security and Agriculture**

**Needs:**
- At least 11,000 farming households (at least 10 per cent of the affected households in North Cotabato and Davao del Sur) require support from the Food Security and Agriculture cluster, specifically assistance in the restoration of agriculture-based livelihoods and repair/rehabilitation of agriculture infrastructure and facilities due to the earthquake.

**Response:**
- At the time of this report, the Food Security and Agriculture cluster has no direct interventions, considering the strong capacity of the government in mobilizing and managing their internal resources including local donors in responding to the immediate food needs of the affected population. The cluster continues to coordinate with the government on FSAC concerns to understand were the cluster can add value in the response. Planned activities will assist in the provision of agriculture inputs and cash for work for repair/rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure and pre-and post-harvest facilities.

**Gaps & Constraints:**
- Lack of comprehensive damage and loss assessment reports of the agriculture sector.

**Nutrition**

**Needs:**
- 16,750 people (10,000 children under-five years old, 6,750 pregnant and lactating women) require Nutrition Cluster support including preventive and life-saving nutrition interventions.
- Cluster coordination and Information management capacities of LGUs need to be strengthened to improve response effectiveness and coverage of interventions and address current gaps based on available evidence.

**Response:**
- 319 children under five years and 171 pregnant and lactating women have been screened for acute malnutrition. So far, three children with severe acute malnutrition and five children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) have been identified and referred for life-saving treatment.
- Micronutrient supplementation is being provided to children under five years. In addition to the bi-annual supplementation this October, one additional child was provided with Vitamin A supplementation.

**Gaps & Constraints:**
- Poor support for mothers with young children to ensure early initiation of breastfeeding for newborn infants, exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months, and continuation of breastfeeding with quality and age-appropriate complementary feeding for young children; including reporting of milk code violations in evacuation centers.
- Inadequate coverage of nutrition screening and referral of acutely malnourished children for health facility/hospital care and community-based management.
- Delayed and inadequate micronutrient supplementation coverage for displaced children, including iron-folic acid supplementation for pregnant and lactating women.
- Little information for displaced families on key health and nutrition-related messages to support positive practices in this higher risk environment.
- LGUs and Regional Nutrition Clusters have limited capacities on cluster coordination and information management.
**Logistics**

**Response:**

- WFP has provided 16 trucks to DSWD allowing them to deliver family food packs and various Non-Food-Items (NFI) to Kidapawan, Makilala, and Digos City.
- WFP has issued two Mobile Storage tents, two prefab offices, and over 300 pallets for the establishment of two forward logistics bases in Kidapawan and Digos City managed by DSWD.
- WFP is organising transport of 47 x 20 foot containers of various nutritious food commodities on behalf of the Department of Health (DoH). Cargo will be moved from strategic stock in Manila to Regions XI and XII. Once cargo is delivered to the regions, the DoH will transport it to the final distribution points. The food commodities will provide support to vulnerable populations such as malnourished children and pregnant mothers.
- IOM has provided additional transportation support to DSWD.

**GENERAL COORDINATION**

The Incident Command System has been activated in North Cotabato and Davao del Sur and command posts are established at the provincial and municipal levels to manage the search, rescue and retrieval operations of affected communities. The national Government has set up a Central Coordination Center (CCC), managed by OCD Region XII, in Kidapawan City, North Cotabato to coordinate response efforts and allocate resources among affected LGUs. For Davao del Sur, an Emergency Operation Center (EOC) has been set up in Davao City, which has started to convene regional Government clusters. Response efforts in the affected areas of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) are coordinated through the Bangsamoro Rapid Emergency Action on Disaster Incident (READI). OCHA is coordinating the MHT partners to work closely with the CCC, EOC and READI-BARMM and authorities at municipal level on humanitarian needs, response gaps and operational challenges. Through the existing coordination platforms, the MHT has been requested by partners to support sectoral responses and address gaps.

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