



Humanitarian situation

- The fighting between government forces and the Maute group in Marawi City, Lanao del Sur has entered its fourth week. While evacuation efforts are ongoing, an estimated 300-500 people remain trapped in the city, according to the authorities.
- More than 200,000 people have been displaced by the fighting, according to the regional authorities. The rainy season has started, and thousands are still scattered in evacuation centers, while many families have sought shelter with relatives.
- The continuing clashes, and the damage on infrastructures in the city, will likely prolong the displacement of Marawi residents. Their needs are immense and growing by the day.

Humanitarian needs and issues of concern

On trapped residents:

- Circumstances are dire for those who are left behind in Marawi as the fighting enters its 24th day. Their lives remain in danger within the fighting zone, and it's impossible for humanitarian organizations to provide them with much needed assistance due to access and security issues. Efforts to secure a humanitarian corridor should continue to ensure the safe evacuation of these civilians.

On displaced families:

- Limited food and drinking water supply, as well as access to sanitation facilities, remain as the most urgent needs of displaced families. Psychosocial support is also important for the mental health of evacuees, especially for children to cope with their situation.
- The rainy season has started, and this poses increased health risks to displaced families, especially children and elderly staying in the evacuation centers. Protracted stay under such conditions makes them more vulnerable to water-borne and communicable diseases.
- The affected Marawi residents will likely face prolonged displacement due to impact of the fighting on their homes and sources of income. They will need help so they can get back on their feet.



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On protection of civilians:

- We are concerned about reports of civilians who were killed or deliberately targeted, and those who are being held against their will. Civilians are not part of the fighting and should be protected.

On coordination of humanitarian activities:

- Some evacuation centers are underserved due to the surge in numbers of displaced people and limited personnel according to the regional authorities.
- Close coordination among all humanitarian organizations and the authorities is crucial to ensure efficient delivery of assistance.

ICRC actions to date

Assisted the safe evacuation of 726 handicapped, sick and wounded civilians, as well as families with young children, from Marawi to nearby municipalities; and continuous monitoring of potential protection cases

Provided additional medicines and medical supplies to 13 hospitals and health facilities in Balindong, Balo-i, Saguiaran, Piagapo, Tamparan, Iligan, Marawi and Malabang to augment their capacity address the medical needs of people displaced, especially weapon wounded people

Supported the Saguiaran rural health unit's mini-hospital setup through provision of 10 folding beds and additional medical supplies that can serve 10,000 individuals for three months

Distributed 22 first aid bags for the local rescue teams and Philippine Red Cross (PRC) volunteers in support of their operations

Distributed food items to more than 19,000 displaced people (3,832 families) in Saguiaran, Piagapo and Balindong; and essential household and hygiene items to around 21,000 displaced people (4,197 families) in Saguiaran, Piagapo, Marawi, Balindong and Tamparan

Works together with the PRC on:

Hygiene promotion and continuous supply of drinking water to more than 10,000 displaced people through five water bladders installed at the evacuation centers in Saguiaran and Marawi City

Installation and maintenance of portalets, bathing area with partition for privacy, washing area and cooking kiosks at Saguiaran evacuation center

Provided 160 body bags and 50 sets of personal protective equipment (i.e. gloves and masks) to the authorities for the proper retrieval of human remains; and, in partnership with the PRC, trained local authorities on the management of dead bodies

Our humanitarian operations are focused on areas closer to the conflict where the ICRC has an advantage because of its contacts with all stakeholders and its ability to operate.

We are engaged in close dialogue with all those involved in the fighting to ensure the protection of civilians and respect for civilian properties, in fulfillment of their obligations to respect the international humanitarian law (IHL).

The ICRC is a neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian organization that protects and assists victims of armed conflict. It has an international mandate to promote knowledge for and respect of IHL.

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