



## Situational background

- Fightings continue particularly in the center of Marawi City. Access remains difficult for the authorities who are exerting efforts to rescue the 3,700 residents that they estimate to be still trapped in the city.
- Damage to civilian properties are evident in Barangay Basak Malutlut where the hostilities started, and in Barangay Banggolo and Mindanao State University commercial center.
- Nearly 100,000 people have been displaced by the fighting in Marawi, based on the latest update from the regional authorities. Majority are scattered in different evacuation centers and have been receiving some form of aid, though much more is needed particularly in food and potable water. Another challenge is to reach the many displaced families who have sought shelter with relatives, who also have needs.

## Humanitarian needs and issues of concerns

### On trapped residents:

- Circumstances are dire for those who are left behind in Marawi City. They have limited access to food, water and healthcare, and face serious danger to their lives, as the fighting enters its ninth day.
- There is a serious concern that some of these trapped residents are being held by armed men against their will.
- Those who try to leave Marawi City often do not have means to move out of the city; and rely on relatives, authorities, or aid organizations such as the Red Cross for this.

### On protection of civilians:

- We are extremely concerned about the impact of the hostilities in Marawi City on the civilians. Our priority is to address the humanitarian needs of people affected by the situation. We are coordinating closely with the authorities and the Philippine Red Cross (PRC).
- We are also seriously 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.
- 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).
- We plan to focus on areas closer to the conflict where the ICRC has an advantage because of its contacts with all stakeholders and its ability to operate.

### On displaced families:

- Limited food and clean water supply, as well as access to sanitation facilities, remain to be the most urgent humanitarian needs in evacuation centers.
- Some evacuation centers are underserved due to the surge in number of displaced people and limited personnel according to the regional authorities. Some areas on the west and east side of Lake Lanao are not served at all.



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## ICRC actions to date

- Distributed food packs, essential household items and hygiene items to 1,500 displaced families (7,500 people) in Saguiaran evacuation center, Lanao del Sur
- Provided supply of clean water for around 450 evacuees at the provincial capitol evacuation center in Marawi City by installing a 5,000 cubic liter water bladder, in partnership with PRC Iligan, after initially providing them with 1,000 jugs of drinking water
- Installed water bladder and mobile water treatment unit at Saguiaran evacuation center to provide clean water to 2,000 displaced families
- Delivered 1 health kit to Balindong rural health unit (RHU) and 1 dressing set to Balindong District Hospital that are receiving sick and wounded civilians; in addition to the 2 health kits delivered to Balo-i and Saguiaran RHUs. Two hospitals in Marawi treating casualties also received hospital kits
- Assisted the safe evacuation of around 564 people, including sick and wounded civilians, from the provincial capitol in Marawi City to Saguiaran evacuation center or to Iligan City
- Provided 60 body bags to the authorities for the proper retrieval of human remains

The International Committee of the Red Cross (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 of and respect for IHL.

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